

*The Official  
Newsletter of*



# Show Me Your Curves



*Volume 9 No. 3  
July 2018*

## Editors message



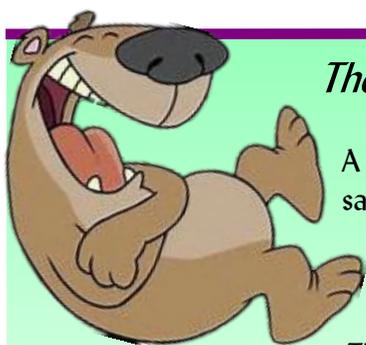
Summer is finally here! Hopefully, all of you have been able to take advantage of the beautiful weather that we have had for the past while and have enjoyed your roadsters on outings and adventures! I have seen some of our members at club functions during the past three months and look forward to seeing the rest of you as we get into the busy "cruising season" for our convertibles.

This newsletter is a combination of reports of events that have already happened,

notifications of events in the planning stages, introductions to some of our new members and some articles that may appeal to fellow Miata enthusiasts that come from several different sources. I am appreciative of the work that Cal Lander does as he scans on-line publications, and collecting those that feature items of interest to Miata drivers.

As you look at page 4 of the newsletter, I hope that you are able to join us for some, if not all, of the events that have been planned for the summer and that you are appreciative of the work that the cruise directors have made in ensuring that activities are stimulating and interesting for each of us. The strength of our club is dependent upon all of us supporting our volunteers.

Doug Jackson



### *The Not So Dumb Blonde and the Bank*

A blonde walks into a bank in central New York City and asks for the loan officer. She says she's going to Europe on business for two weeks and needs to borrow \$5,000.

The bank officer says the bank will need some kind of security for the loan, so the blonde hands over the keys to a new Rolls Royce. The car is parked on the street in front of the bank; she has the title and everything checks out.

The bank agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan. The bank's president and its officers all enjoy a good laugh at the blonde for using a \$250,000 Rolls as collateral against a \$5,000 loan. An employee of the bank then proceeds to drive the Rolls into the bank's underground garage and parks it there. Two weeks later, the blonde returns, repays the \$5,000 and the interest which comes to \$15.41. The loan officer says, "Miss, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is, why would you bother to borrow \$5,000?"

The blonde replies, "Where else in central New York City can I park my Rolls for two weeks for only \$15.41 and expect it to be there when I return?"

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## Show Me Your Curves

is a quarterly publication of a Miata enthusiasts group known as the Miatas of Muskoka... We are a small group that like to explore the twisty back roads and scenic lakes in Canada's premier vacation playground ..... Muskoka.

Visit our Website at

URL:<http://www.miatasofmuskoka.com/>

Or

Check us out on Facebook: [miatasofmuskoka](https://www.facebook.com/miatasofmuskoka).

Special Thanks to



For their ongoing support of our group

# Upcoming Events . . .

Miatas of Muskoka 2018 Cruise Event Schedule			2018
Cruise Event	Date(s)	Event Type	Cruise Director(s)
Spring Fling Cruise & Brunch Swiss Country Restaurant, Ahmic Lake Resort, Magnetawan	Sun. May 6th	Day-trip	Gord & Laurel Bauldry
Around the Lakes Cruise & Picnic (Lk. Muskoka, Lk. Rosseau, Lk. Joseph)	Sat. May 26th	Day-trip	Mike & Cathy Fedorowich (Macaulay input)
Orillia area Cruise & Couchiching Pk. Picnic/outdoor games	Thurs. June 7th	Day-trip	Cal & Gail Lander (Fedorowich input)
Angevaare Mazda Annual Miata Open House/BBQ/Cruise (Peterborough)	Sun. June 10th	Day-trip	No CD req'd (Michael Topping will lead to Peterborough & back)
Caledon Area Cruise (Forks of the Credit, etc.)	Weds/Thurs June 20th/21st	Overnight (1 nite)	Ed & Judy Gigg <b>CANCELLED</b>
Lake Huron Shore Cruise (& lunch at Walters' Falls Inn)	Tues/Weds July 3rd/4th	Overnight (1 nite)	Garry & Patty Walker
Orillia Mazda BBQ	Sat. July 21st	Day-trip	To be determined
Almaguin Highlands Cruise (& lunch at Edgewater Resort)	Thurs. Aug 9th	Day-trip (desig.charity cruise)	Larry & Barb Dickson (Macaulay input)
"Miata Rally for Kids" (start from Moffat's Mazda Barrie – details being finalized)	Sat. Aug. 18th	Day-trip	No CD req'd – (Bob Macaulay is MoM's contact with event plnr.)
King's Wharf Theatre "Hairspray" Matinee and dinner (Penetang)	Sat Aug. 18th	Day-trip	Doug & Sheila Jackson
Niagara Area Cruise (+ Shaw Fest. & Hamilton area waterfalls?)	TBD (week of Aug. 26th-30th)	Overnight (1 or 2 nites)	<b>CANCELLED</b>
Haliburton/Bancroft Picnic Cruise	Thurs. Sept. 6th	Day-trip	Bob & Carol Macaulay
Calabogie/Renfrew Cty. Cruise	Weds.-Thurs. Sept. 19th -20th	Overnight (1 nite)	Bob & Carol Macaulay
Fall Colours (Muskoka) Cruise (& lunch)	Sat. Sept 29th OR Thurs. Oct. 4th	Day-trip	Mike & Cathy Fedorowich

## ICE CREAM RUNS

2nd and 4th Tuesday evg. every month (starts May 22nd) Meet at Bracebridge Independent Grocer @ 6:30 PM (unless advised otherwise via advance e-mail.) Dates are May 22nd, June 12th\*\* & 26th, July 10th\*\* & 24th, August 14th\*\* & 28th, September 10th\*\*, and possibly Sept. 25th, weather permitting.

\*\*"Special" ice cream runs will take place on the following specified dates each month, usually involving short cruise and special activity (in addition to ice cream), as noted below; advance notices emailed to members, with details.]

**June 12th** – mini-golf/dinner, Evergreen Golf Ctr, Washago

**July 10th** – potluck/BBQ, Macaulay home (Fairy Lk, Huntsville)

**August 14th** – bowling/dinner, Quality Inn, Bracebridge

**Sept. 10th** – corn roast, M. Newton home (Penfold Lk, Utterson)

# Cruise Reminders:

Summer

1. Before each cruise (except the regular ice cream runs), an Event Notice with all details will be circulated to all members, both for your information and to obtain an RSVP response, to assist the Cruise Directors(s) with final planning and arrangements for the event. **Please respect the requested response deadline and provide a timely “yes” or “no” response by return e-mail, regardless of whether or not you will be attending.**
  2. To ensure the safety of all cruise participants, CB radios are required for participation in all MoM cruise events, except for the ice cream runs; please remember to bring and use your CB.
- [NOTE:** if you don't already own a CB, MoM now has 2 portable (hand-held) CB units available for temporary use on a one-time only loan basis, pending acquisition of your own CB unit.]
3. Please try and member to cruise with your lights on for safety reasons, especially when travelling in a larger group.

## Upcoming Events . . .

### Orillia Mazda BBQ

Sat. July 21<sup>st</sup>

*Keep this date clear if you can. We have been invited as a club to attend a BBQ to be held by Orillia Mazda in Orillia. It would be great if we could manage a large turnout.*

*Details will be forthcoming by email in the near future.*

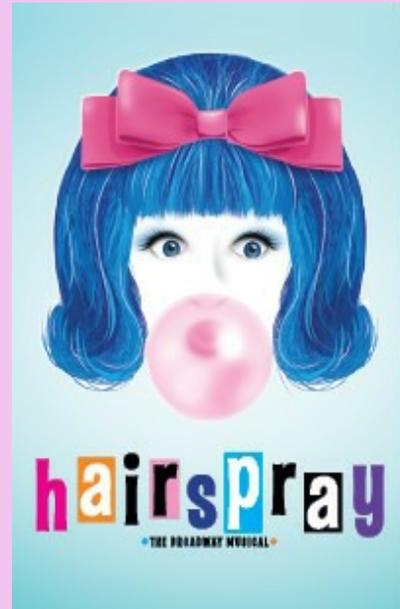


# Upcoming Events . . . Summer

**“Hairspray” is Coming to King’s Wharf Theatre!  
and YOU are INVITED to ATTEND!**

Get ready for something big with Hairspray, the musical-comedy phenomenon that inspired a major motion picture and won eight Tony® Awards, including Best Musical.

It’s 1962 ... the ’50s are out and change is in the air. Baltimore’s Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair and an even bigger heart, has only one passion – to dance! She wins a coveted spot on the popular Corny Collins Show, and overnight is transformed from social outcast to irrepressible teen celebrity. But can a trendsetter in dance and fashion vanquish the reigning princess, win the heart of heartthrob Link Larkin, and integrate a television show ... all without denting her ’do?



 Again this year, Doug and Sheila were able to obtain a block of tickets for a musical theatre production at King’s Wharf Theatre in Penetang. Two years ago we saw “Mamma Mia!” and last year we attended “Joseph”. This year’s production of “Hairspray” should be equally entertaining! A total of 35 members have already committed to

this trip and 27 have paid \$41.81 each for tickets, so we are pleased at the response! We have planned a route that will take us through the farming countryside of north Simcoe County, with a stop at a modern dairy farm, a picnic lunch at a covered pavilion, a cruise to the theatre, the matinee production of “Hairspray, then dinner at “Captain Robert’s Table”. It should be a great day! Detailed information will be sent to participants in mid-July.



# Upcoming Events . . .



*This is a copy of an email received on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June. Please read and act accordingly as you wish. The “Register Here” button should work.*

## **Mazda Clubs - Join us for Mazda’s 50th anniversary in Canada**

Katie Hagerty (MCI) via mazdausa.onmicrosoft.com Jun 28, 2018,

Good afternoon, to celebrate our 50th anniversary on July 19th we’re hosting an event at our head office in Richmond Hill. We are extending an invitation to local Mazda Club members so you can all join us in the celebration! Please forward this email to your club members so they can register if they’d like to attend the event (via the ‘register here’ button below). We encourage preregistration to ensure we’re ready for you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

### **Thank you for supporting Mazda.**

July 19th marks Mazda’s 50th anniversary in Canada and we want you to join us in celebrating this milestone. Throughout its history, Mazda has been committed to delivering vehicles that are fun-to-drive, and because of passionate drivers like yourself, we have always had a reason to pursue that goal.

### **About the Event**

Join us at Mazda Canada’s head office for refreshments, activities and giveaways. Learn about some of the key moments from our past and get the chance to meet some of our employees and get an insider’s look into how we work.

### **Details**

Date: **July 19th**

Time: Anytime between 3 pm – 7 pm

Location: 55 Vogell Rd, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 3P6

### **RSVP**

Please RSVP by using the registration button below.

### **Group Drive**

[Register Here](#)

There’s no better way to celebrate 50 years of Mazda in Canada than by driving! We have mapped a course from Mazda’s head office that will highlight the beauty of Canada’s landscape and the joys of driving. We are inviting everyone to join us on this journey. There will be two groups you can join, departing at 6:30 pm or 7:00 pm.

50 years of driving passion could not have been possible without you and we look forward to you joining us in the celebrations.

### **The Mazda Canada Team**

# Upcoming Events . . .

*Please hold the date of September 14 to 16, 2018.*

## **Rockies Rendezvous**

The Canadian Rockies Miata Club is hosting an invitational MX-5 Miata event and extending invitations throughout Canada and the USA.

Our venue is the recently renovated Delta Kananaskis (now operated by Marriott) and we have a full weekend of events planned that will be sure to please and thrill you, our fellow Mazda MX-5 Miata owners.

Friday afternoon registration will begin at 3:00 PM followed up with a Show and Shine in the inner courtyard and BBQ that evening. It will allow everyone to mingle and enjoy discussing their cars as well as talk to supporting vendors. A Western themed hearty breakfast Saturday morning followed up with a drive up the Highwood Pass (the highest paved road in Canada and one of the most scenic). Others may choose to drive to nearby Banff or Lake Louise or simply enjoy the Resort's beautiful spa or challenging golf course. A Saturday night banquet will cap the day. Sunday morning breakfast goodbyes and send off. Other destinations that are easily accessible including Jasper and all of the Kananaskis area. All of these details are being worked on and we plan on sending this hold the date email out to other clubs and Mazda dealers throughout the West. We think there is a chance we will have a vintage Mazda Cosmo on display as well but much tba. Plan on saving \$15 to \$20 Cdn per week from now until the event to fund your weekend.

**My question for you – would you like to attend and how many would that be?**

All the best and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Regards,  
Tom Schultz President  
Canadian Rockies Miata Club  
Calgary, Alberta



# Membership

# Summer

## Meet the New Members! Gloria Weber

*Hi, everyone!*

My name is Gloria Weber. My Miata came about as a “Second Choice” to a Harley Davidson Screaming Eagle. Little did I know when I bought it that it would fast become my very favorite ride!

My husband and I were avid bikers and we toured from the east to the west of Canada and visited most of the states of the USA. Unfortunately, my husband developed some health issues, and after a short battle with cancer, I found myself a widow. Once I came to grips with my “new life”, I realized that I missed the open air of bike travel and, knowing that I was too small (even if I had a license), I gave the bike to my son and went shopping.

I found my wee car in September 2015, and love every moment that I’m in it. That very next year, I took it to Vermont, Bar Harbor, and home through New York. It was a beautiful trip and I had the top down every day!

I made a photo collage of some of my favourite things ... ask me about some of them when we get together on future Miata cruises!

I joined your club to spend time with people who enjoy zooming around as much as I do! I look forward to a busy summer!

**Gloria**



# Events already enjoyed. .

# Summer

April 22, 2018

## Annual General Meeting

by Doug Jackson

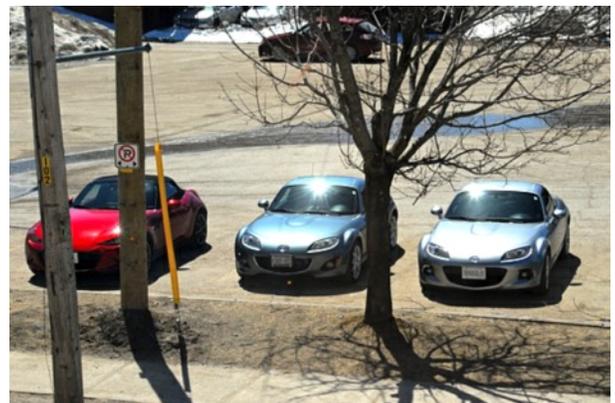
Three years in a row! Super bright, sunny day for the Annual General Meeting of the “Miatas of Muskoka” Car Club! The parking lot had several Miatas that were allowed out of their garages for the first meeting of the year. Naturally, some members chose to leave their ‘summer car’ in the garage for a little while longer, but still joined us at the Bracebridge Arena for the annual meeting.



Coffee and muffins were available as soon as folks walked into the meeting hall and that led to lots of socializing

as people ‘caught up’ with one another from events of the winter.

Membership dues, registration of new members, payments for ‘Hairspray’ and distribution of membership cards all occupied our time before the meeting formally began.



The Miataville Council took their places at the head table and the meeting began with welcome remarks from Bob, then reports from Cathy (Finances), Cal (Membership), Doug (Newsletter) and Laurel (Merchandise). Obviously, the Miataville Council had met during the winter months to prepare preliminary suggestions and

recommendations that were shared with the members via emails from Bob. We had also been reminded to bring our personal planning calendars to the



# Summer

meeting. That aided our discussions and decision-making immensely! Doug showed a brief slide show of some of our events from last year that got us in the mood for planning activities for the 2018 season! We used the computer and projector to guide the discussion. A tentative list of cruises and dates were prepared and a summary list was emailed to all of the members. Throughout the past few weeks, some changes have been made. Bob has emailed the amended and finalized "Cruise Events Schedule" to everyone and it also appears on page 4 of this newsletter. You are

encouraged to mark the dates on your calendars.

The last event of the afternoon was getting a group photo of all who attended. It was nice to see many of our returning members and really special to meet some new members to our club!



**1**<sup>st</sup>  
GENERATION  
MKI  
CODENAMED  
NA

**2**<sup>nd</sup>  
GENERATION  
MKII  
CODENAMED  
NB

**3**<sup>rd</sup>  
GENERATION  
MKIII  
CODENAMED  
NC

**4**<sup>th</sup>  
GENERATION  
MKIV  
CODENAMED  
ND



# Events already enjoyed. . Summer

Sunday, May 6, 2018

## Spring Fling Cruise and Lunch

by Doug Jackson

What a difference a year makes! Last year, our Spring Fling cruise, the first outing of the season, took place during an extremely cold, rainy and generally miserable day. This year, as you can see from some of the photos, our cruise day turned out to be very sunny and warm enough that some brave souls wore shorts and golf shirts! Most of us were so anxious to cruise with the convertible tops down that we wore layers of clothing in order to be comfortable enough to enjoy the pleasant weather!

The main group congregated in the parking lot at YIG in Bracebridge, where we mixed and mingled and welcomed two more drivers to our group, Mike MacRay and Jim Even. Laurel and Gordon gave us our instructions and off we went! The roads were great and not packed with summer visitors! We rendezvoused with the 'northern group' and then reconfigured our driving order with two groups of cars. It was nice to have so many participants for the first outing of the year!

We enjoyed the scenic roads in our picturesque part of the country. The trees were still bare and the rivers and lakes continued to be in their flood stage, adding to the natural beauty. By travelling on highway 124, we eventually reached our lunch spot destination, Swiss Country Restaurant at Ahmic Lake Resort, near Magnetawan. Laurel had arranged for our group to be located in the resort's newly completed bar! It was a perfect location!



Sunday brunch proved to be a hit. Some went for breakfast, some for lunch ... and some of us went for both! We were pleased that another new member joined us at the restaurant. Gloria Weber lives relatively close by and we enjoyed her company with us. By afternoon, the weather had changed so we put the tops up and continued our journey southward, but not before stopping to get some good views of the waterfalls and rapids along the way. What a lovely way to start off our new cruising season. Thank you to all of our participants and a particular thank you to Laurel and Gordon for planning and leading the cruise!



*Events already enjoyed. .*

**Summer**

*Sunday, May 27, 2018*

## ***Around the “Big Three” Muskoka Lakes, Picnic and Day Cruise***

*by Cathy Fedorowich*

*(with photos from Fedorowich and Macaulay participants)*

What a day it was! I am sure that all in attendance echoed this comment! The weather could not have been more perfect. In hindsight, changing the cruise date was the correct decision because our original cruise day



From Rosseau village, we headed down the windy and picturesque Peninsula Road, with views of Lake Joseph, another of the Big 3, to Port Carling. Once in Port Carling, we



parked at the lock for a walk-around of the island park. We marvelled at how pretty the view was, with Lake Rosseau on one side of the bridge and Lake

Muskoka, the third of the big 3, on the other side of the bridge.

After travelling down the many twisting roads, thoughts of picnic time were nearing. Back in the cars again and, within minutes, arrived at another lovely site, Hannah Park on Bailey Street in Port Carling. Much to our



was Saturday, which had inclement weather. All gathered at a local gas station in Port Sydney to ensure full gas tanks for our cruise. From there, we set out through Utterson on many winding roads to Windermere. Here we stopped for a line-up of our cars and a little photo- op for the memory books. Then it was onward from Windermere to Rosseau Waterfront Park for our stop at the first of the “Big Three” Muskoka Lakes.



# Summer

surprise, the parking lot was completely empty of other visitors. It was as if this normally busy park was reserved especially for us! What a lovely and relaxing park to visit and to enjoy our picnic lunch. After lunch, the entire group walked the paved pathway in the park to take note of this beautiful spot on the Indian River, which joins Lake Muskoka to Lake Rosseau.

“Where to now?” they ask. Back in the cars we go, passing through Port Carling, more twisty roads to Bala, a look at the Bala Falls, then a stop at Windsor Park; another great place for a photo- op with Lake Muskoka in the backdrop.



Not done yet with checking this area out! After Windsor Park, we headed towards Torrance for a quick visit at Clear Lake Brewing. Friendly folks talked with us there about their beers, then off we went down Southwood Drive with the destination of Gravenhurst in mind.

Our final stop and end-of-cruise was the Gravenhurst Wharf. Yes, our favoured ice-cream treats were available to purchase, and so we did. By this time, we were all very warm from the heat of the day, even our ice creams were melting quickly, but we laughed at it all and the wonderful day we shared together!



# Events already enjoyed. Summer

## Thursday, June 7 Orillia/Lake Couchiching /Cruise and Picnic

### Cruise Directors:

**Cathy and Michael Fedorowich  
with Gail and Cal Lander**



Under the capable lead of Cathy and Mike Fedorowich five of our intrepid cars proceeded from Bracebridge southward via Southwood Road to meet in the

village of Washago at the LCBO store near highway 11. From there, Gail and Cal Lander led the group along the east shore of Lake Couchiching, through the first nations village of Rama, past the casino and on into Orillia.



Arriving at Couchiching Park we commandeered a pavilion in which we were able to enjoy our lunches and some participants passed the time playing a fun game of Bocce Ball while others walked to enjoy the beauty of the park and lakefront. There were some of our younger (at heart) members however who preferred to enjoy the facilities of the nearby children's playground.



Three more cars joined us in Orillia and after some free time we met at dockside to get our tickets for an afternoon of cruising on the Island Princess





*Those that can, Play, Those that cant, Watch...*



cruise boat. The weather, thank goodness, cooperated and we all had an enjoyable cruise enjoying the sights along the shore of lake Couchiching accompanied by the excellent and at times



amusing commentary of “Captain Bob”.

Following the cruise, we drove along the lake shore road and saw the houses which we had seen from the waterside from the other aspect on land. Of course, there was an ice cream and food stop at The Red Caboose before heading home on our respective routes.





Summer

June 7, 2018

## Lake Couchiching Boat Cruise

by Cathy Fedorowich

(with photos from Fedorowich, Macaulay, Jackson participants)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** What a wonderful surprise! **TWO** people wrote and illustrated articles about the same cruise!!! The cruise directors, Cal and Gail Lander, prepared a report. Cathy and Mike Fedorowich, co directors for this event were so inspired by the trip and the activities that they, too, wrote a report!!! What a great group we have! Cal used some of Cathy's photos in his report, so I inserted some of my photos in Cathy's commentary. Rather than printing just one, I am including both write-ups in the newsletter. Thanks to both of you for taking the initiative!

Doug



## GAME ON !!!

This time, the Miatas of Muskoka decided to take in more of the beauty that surrounds us. Couchiching Beach Park in Orillia was the setting for our midweek picnic lunch. There is a sprawling boardwalk with expansive views of the water, gorgeous landscaped grounds, pavilions to enjoy lunch under and even take in a sight-seeing cruise. We enjoyed it all !!

Some of the northern members met in Bracebridge, where we set off on picturesque roads through the countryside, joining up in

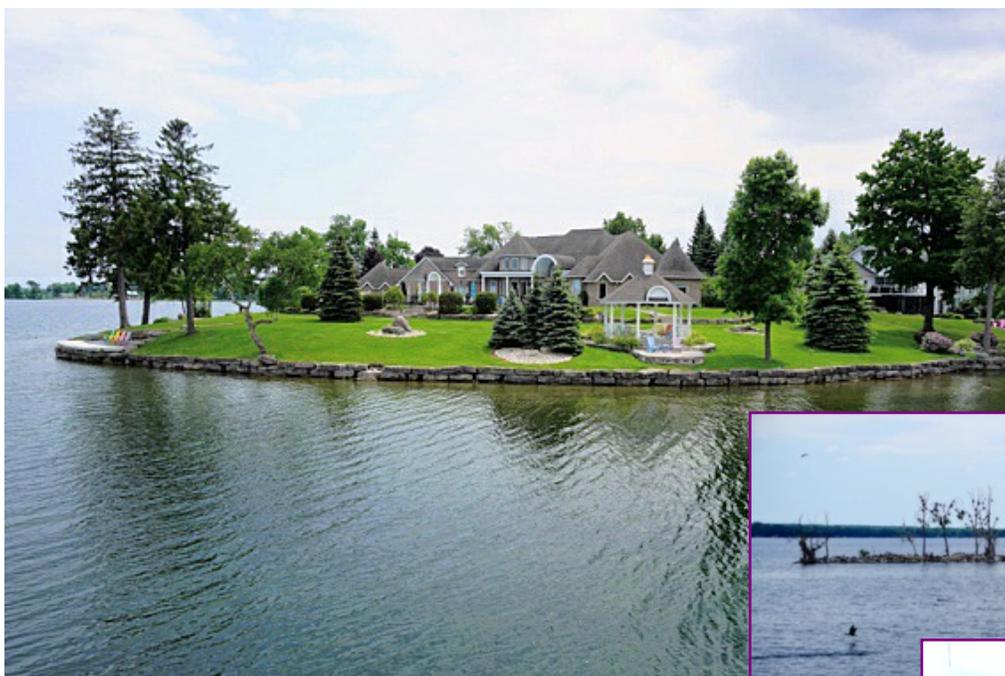


Washago with cruise directors Cal & Gail Lander, as well as other members from Midland and Orillia. From Washago, we continued on through Rama area to our destination at Couchiching Beach Park in Orillia. There had been a few

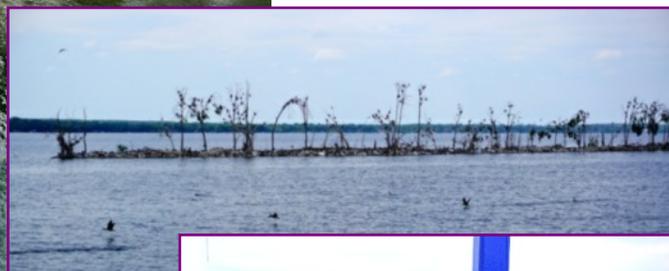


unseasonably cold days prior to our picnic day, but the sun broke through as soon as we arrived at the park. We huddled together under the pavilion, enjoying our picnic lunch, but, still feeling a little cold, decided to set out the bocce balls to help us warm up. With a little encouragement from member Mike Fedorowich, the group was up and ready to give it a try. Oh, the fun we had discovering our hidden talents and lots of laughs, too.

Warmed by the activity, we then walked the boardwalk at water's edge to arrange for our afternoon boat cruise. It was a perfect day for that; calm waters and enough sunshine to keep us warm. Tom, our Captain and boat cruise guide, gave an excellent commentary on the history of the area and homes along the waterfront; all very informative and humorous, too, one might add. We were all fascinated by the story of “the house that garbage built”, shown in the photo.



Later we followed the explanation of the island that has been almost totally cleared of vegetation because of the huge population of cormorants on the lake. Another enjoyable cruise and picnic lunch worth



repeating next year, same time, same place. We will even bring the bocce balls again!

Thanks, Gail & Cal Lander, for arranging the travel route and pooling us all together!



# Ice Cream Runs

Summer

**Tuesday, May 22, 2018**

*by Doug Jackson  
(with photos from Carol Macaulay)*

The first Ice Cream Run of the 2018 season took place on Tuesday, May 22. The meeting place was the regular one for our club, the YIG parking lot in Bracebridge. Unfortunately, there were only three cars for this outing, but the attendees had a very good time! Gordon and Laurel, Carol and Bob and one of our new members, Jim Even, enjoyed their cruise and their ice cream, but certainly wished that more members had marked their calendars and joined them. They hope that future “Ice Cream Runs” will be better attended!



# Special ICR

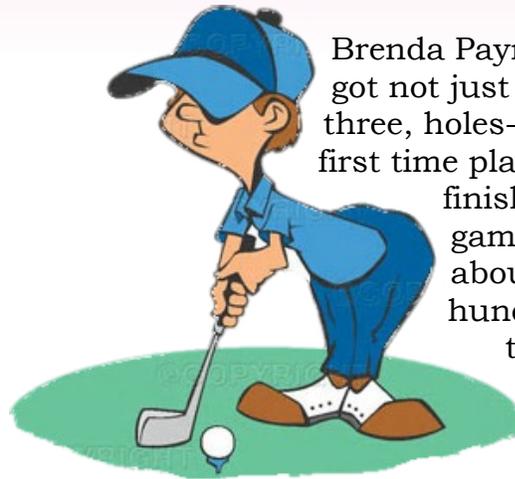
# Summer

**Evergreen Golf Centre,  
Washago Village  
Restaurant,  
Tuesday, June 12, 2018**

*by Doug Jackson*

**When Does an Ice Cream Run  
Cease to be an ICR?  
How Can You Call an ICR an  
ICR Without the IC?**

Well, the ICR scheduled for June 12 could definitely be classified as a first! A first in a couple of different ways. To begin with, we played mini-putt at Evergreen Golf Centre, at Hawkins Corners, near Washago. That was a first! It won't be the last! We all had a great time and agreed that we should return for future games and dinners. One car from the north, driven by the Phillips, met up with seven cars from the south, at the Evergreen Golf Centre. The thirteen participants divided up into three groups, got their putters and colourful golf balls and headed out onto the challenging eighteen hole putting course. Another first!



Brenda Payne got not just one, but three, holes-in-one! Her first time playing! After finishing our golf game, we drove about three hundred metres to our dinner destination, the Washago

Village Restaurant, at South Sparrow Lake Road and Hwy. #11. We ordered off the regular menu and found the serving sizes to be very generous. Bluntly speaking, we stuffed ourselves! We sat around the dinner table for lots of friendly conversation and camaraderie. When we finally pushed ourselves away





Amazing ... an "Ice Cream Run" without ice cream ... is this a first for our club?



from the table, we experienced another first. We were all so full from dinner that when Cal volunteered to lead us to the Red Caboose for ice cream, the decision was made ... NO ICE CREAM!



# Members journeys . . . Summer

## **Blazing a Trail for the Rest of Us (The Trip Making Some Club Members Envious)**

**by Doug Jackson  
(with photos from Garry Walker)**

Many of us know that Bob and Carol Macaulay and Mike and Cathy Fedorowich embarked on a journey in their Miatas to the Allegheny Mountains last summer. They were only a few days into their

trip when Bob suffered a medical emergency and was forced to return home. They wanted to return this summer to complete the trip. Two more couples joined them, the Walker's and the Bauldry's, and we can't wait to hear about their adventures when they return at the end of June. Perhaps in the next newsletter, we will hear about their drive on "The Tail of the Dragon", featuring 318 curves in just 18 km. What an adventure! Looking forward to hearing all about it!



# MX-5 Nostalgia

Summer

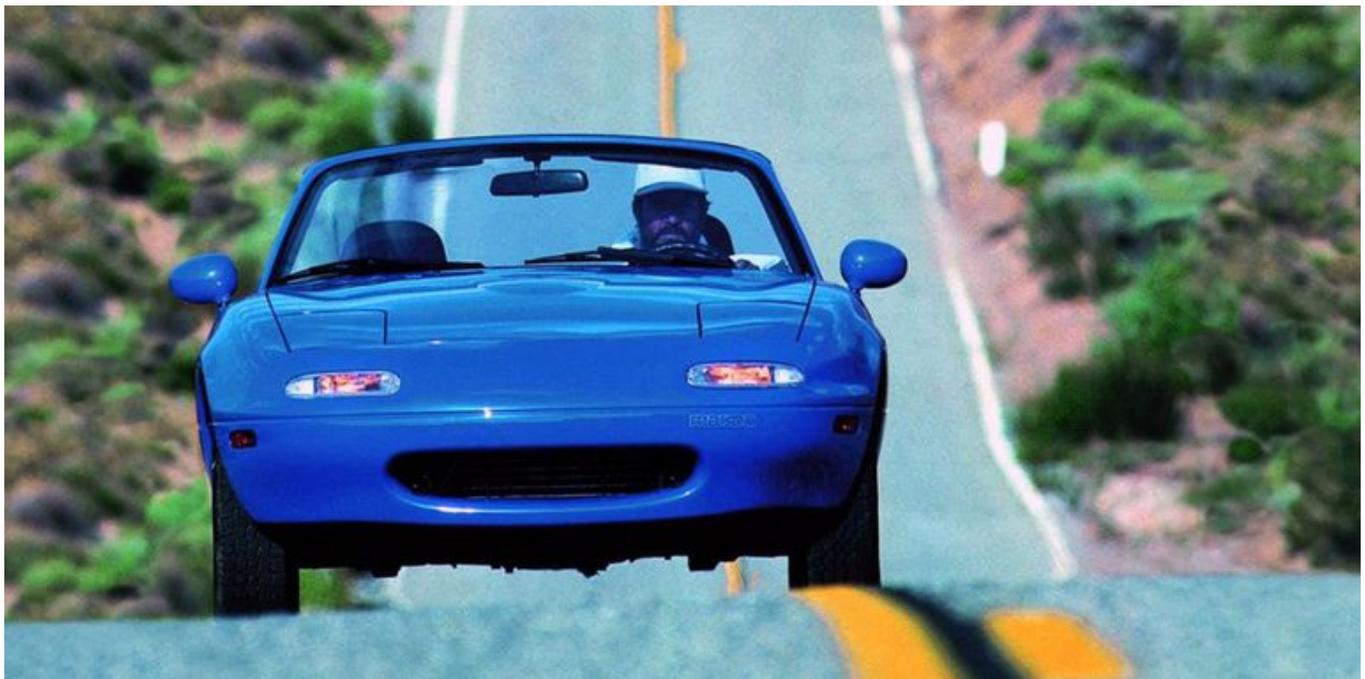
## How Revolutionary Was the Mazda Miata in 1989?

### Just Watch.

This wasn't the only affordable rear-wheel drive sports car of its day. But it was the best.

about everything from daily driving to club racing. But obviously, the NA was once a new car, and it's valuable to day to consider what it went up against when new.

As this old MotorWeek video reminds us, when the Miata arrived in 1989, you could buy a new Alfa Romeo Spider or a Toyota MR-2; the Pontiac Fiero had only just gone out of production, and Nissan had the 240SX. So you weren't lacking choice for rear-wheel drive sports cars in the day.



POPULAR MECHANICS



By Chris Perkins  
Jun 8, 2018

It's hard to think about the original Mazda Miata without considering what it is today, nearly 30 years after its introduction. After all, it's the default choice today for a cheap, light, simple sports car, perfect for just

And yet, the Miata blew all of them away. "The Miata will make MR-2 and Fiero owners understand that it takes a lot more than two seats and a sunroof to make a true sports car," Motorweek's John Davis said.

A key to the NA's success was that it was designed from the outset as a sports car. It didn't borrow its chassis from any other car in the Mazda lineup, and while its 1.6-liter four-cylinder came from the 323

economy car, it got four-valve heads and dual-overhead cams for better, more responsive performance. Mazda paid attention to the details on this car, and it showed. Davis summed up the car well in his rather prophetic ending to this review: "By mixing the fun of yesterday's roadsters with the technology of today, it marks a giant leap forward in the evolution of the sports car," he said. "And it will go down in automotive

history as the car that saved the roadster from near-extinction." Nearly 30 years after this review was aired, and with the Miata still in production and great as ever, we can't say he was wrong.

Summer

**Click on the arrow on the photo below**

From: Road & Track



# MX-5 Nostalgia

Summer

## Mazda MX-5 Miata Superlight Concept

**Mazda added lightness to this speedster-style Miata concept to commemorate the roadster's 20-year history.**

SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

BY JAKE HOLMES



The idea behind the Superlight is to emphasize the lightweight nature of the MX-5, and to that end the concept wears neither roof nor windshield. Sculpted, aerodynamic bolsters behind both seats serve as roll bars and house LED brake lights, and there's a single, wide-angle rearview mirror mounted in front of the driver. A carbon-fiber hood extension protrudes into the cabin and serves as the top for the lightweight plastic and carbon-fiber dashboard.

Inside, things are spartan enough to satisfy even the most weight-averse driver. The air conditioning, fan, carpeting, and sound

insulation were all nixed to cut weight. The seats are carbon fiber and covered in the same brown leather that adorns the Superlight's armrests and dashboard. You also get a push-button starter and aluminum shifter. Track is widened 2.0 inches, ride height is lowered by 1.1, and new Bilstein coilover shocks and Eibach anti-roll bars are fitted. Larger, cross-drilled disc brakes are gripped by new four-piston calipers, while power comes

Although Mazda won't be following the trend of many automakers and releasing a new supercar at the Frankfurt auto show, the company is using the event to unveil the Mazda MX-5 Superlight concept, a special bare-bones MX-5 meant to celebrate 20 years of the world's most popular roadster. We brought you initial details and photos of the car last week, when they leaked onto the internet, and now Mazda has confirmed what we pretty much already knew, including that it has no plans to actually produce the car.



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from the Miata's Euro-spec 1.8-liter four-cylinder, which puts out just 125 hp and 123 lb-ft of torque with a unique Mazdaspeed intake and exhaust. The gearbox is a conventional five-speed manual taken from the production MX-5, as are the lightweight 17-inch alloy wheels. All the weight trimming yields a curb weight of

about 2200 pounds, or nearly 300 pounds less than an American-spec model. That low weight reportedly enables 0-to-62-mph acceleration in 8.9 seconds and up to 37 mpg.



## Going Places

If you are going places these days, you have arrived. I am not talking about climbing into your high-end car and jumping on the freeway doing 80 mph, and cursing anyone who slows you down, until you reach your destination. At which point you are tense, tired, and cranky, and anyone in the car with you is just as irritated and anxious.

By “going places,” I mean savoring the process of going places. For example, journeying out on a sunny Sunday drive in your vintage 1938 Pontiac, '68 Plymouth, or '48 Packard, perhaps on your way to a little town about an hour away where you and your family can have an ice cream. Or not. Because the ice cream is not the point - it's the journey that matters.

I'm talking about motoring along in your vintage car at a sedate pace on secondary



roads with the windows down, so you can enjoy the perfumed air of spring along with the occasional whiff of gasoline, hot water, and motor-oil fumes. You say things like: “That’s an antique John Deere over there,” or “Look at that old barn with the faded

“Chew Mail Pouch Tobacco’ sign. I think I’d rather chew the mail pouch than the tobacco,” or “Isn’t that Freddie in his ’56 Dodge coming toward us?” Along with being mindful and enjoying

your surroundings, you listen to that vintage engine ticking over. What a sweet old machine. What a beautiful day! That, as opposed to going into suspended animation in a high-velocity insulated cocoon until you get there, get there, get there.

Years ago, I took my father to his birthplace in Southern Kentucky, and we also saw Where my great grandfather once owned a general store at a place called Gray John Hill in Northern Tennessee. My father’s family left when he was just six years old, so he only had spotty memories of the area.

We asked for directions at a coffee shop in the little town of Celina, Tennessee named after a family member’s daughter— and from there we hopped on the expressway for about 10 minutes and we were there.

## Contemplation

*This article appeared in the latest edition of Hemming's Classic Car magazine. It hit so close to home for me that I thought it should be shared.*

# Summer

We drove up a wooded hill and met an elderly lady named Pearly McLaren who invited us into her modest home. She had a pistol on top of her tiny television, so we knew we had better be respectful. Turns out, she knew people from our family and was able to catch us up on what had happened to many of them. It was then I asked her why my great grandfather had a general store so close to town.

She replied that the hill was only 10 minutes away by modern expressway, but in the old days if you were to go by horseback on the trail, you would need two hours one way. And if you went down through the woods and meadows on foot, it would take you half a day to get there. That explained a lot.

Among other things, it told me how much of the richness of daily life we have sacrificed just to save time. The trip by motorway was boring, but it only took 10 minutes. However, on foot you might have seen deer and raccoons, smelled the pine trees, and perhaps seen quiet ponds and neighboring farms; and you might chat with people along the way.

I have crossed the Pacific Ocean several times but have experienced nothing in the process. No waves, no salt air, no storms, and no feeling for the sheer immensity of it. I was too busy watching old movies, pulling out my tray table for dinner, and dozing as best I could in my cramped economy seat to pay any attention to what was 30,000 feet below me and shooting by at 500 mph.

All of this led me to post Richardson's Law, which states that as your speed goes up, your enjoyment of the journey goes down. So, I say get into your old car and go for a

meander, take it easy, and savor the machine and your surroundings. You'll feel alive, as opposed to becoming one of the living dead on the freeway trying to gettheregettheregetthere not realizing that you have arrived. After all, there is only here and now.

Don't misunderstand. I love speed as much as anybody, and I have a 2007 Corvette ZOG to prove it. But what I love about speed is the adrenaline rush and the challenge of taking corners quickly. As Stirling Moss once said, "Speed is the new pleasure," but I'd add that it's not enjoyable for getting to appointments.

Now, if you will excuse me, it is Sunday afternoon, and my wife and I are going to climb into my 1939 Packard 120, put the top down, and take a trip over to the harbor to see the big ships, and perhaps stop for an ice cream or lunch someplace. Or not.

We have arrived at long last. Going places is such a real pleasure.



***Holy Miata, Batman!***

# MX-5 News

## 2019 Mazda MX-5 Miata Could See 26-HP Bump to 181 Ponies

Mazda's MX-5 Miata roadster has never been a car consumed with power. In fact, its distinct lack of horsepower is part of its back-to-basics sports-car appeal. The current-generation Miata actually has less output—just 155 ponies!—than the car it replaced. But Road & Track has uncovered evidence that that could soon change.

In an annual VIN notice sent to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Mazda lists the 2019-model-year MX-5 Miata's engine as a 2.0-liter four-cylinder with 181 horsepower, 26 more than it has now and the most ever from a factory Miata. (The second-generation Miata's turbocharged Mazdaspeed variant only made 178 horsepower.) How Mazda reaches that number (assuming the NHTSA filing is accurate) is the million-dollar question.



The NHTSA document does not specify whether the 2.0-liter engine in question is an evolution of the same Skyactiv-G unit currently in the Miata or something else, like, say, the brand's forthcoming high-tech gas-fed supercharged, compression-ignition-capable Skyactiv-X engine. The X is slated to appear sometime in the next year or two in the next-generation Mazda 3 compact, and its preliminary output figure roughly matches the 181-hp number listed for the 2019 Miata.



On the other hand, the Skyactiv-G is sticking around throughout the Mazda lineup for the foreseeable future as the entry-level offering positioned beneath the Skyactiv-X. And Mazda has told us it will continue to develop the G going forward. As such, a 26-hp bump isn't out of the question, assuming the G would be given better intake and exhaust plumbing and tweaks to

engine internals to raise its 6800-rpm redline by a few hundred revolutions per minute. (Horsepower being calculated as a function of engine speeds and torque generally means that the faster an engine spins, the more power it'll make.) The Skyactiv-G engine already boasts an incredibly high 13:1 compression ratio and runs on premium gasoline.

Driven: Mazda's Next Mazda 3 with Its Skyactiv-X Compression-Ignition Gas Engine

The Mazda 6 Wagon Gets Refreshed; Now Bring It to America, Please  
 Mazda MX-5 Miata Research: Pricing, Specs, Reviews, and More!  
 Maybe Mazda will employ a small supercharger like that fitted to the Skyactiv-

X engine, or a similarly compact turbocharger, although neither is mentioned in the NHTSA filing. What is certain is that if the Miata is a blast with 155 horsepower (and also surprisingly quick, thanks to its light weight), it'll be a full-on, Molotov-cocktail-chucking riot with 181 ponies under the hood.

Mazda's document filing also reveals changes in store for the Miata's trim-level structure. Look for the lineup to grow from Sport, Club, and Grand Touring trims (the latter two the only choices for today's hardtop Miata RF) to include a base SV spec and a new range-topping SE (special edition in Mazda-speak)—with the RF now matching the softtop roadster trim for trim. More power and more choices? We can't wait for 2019.



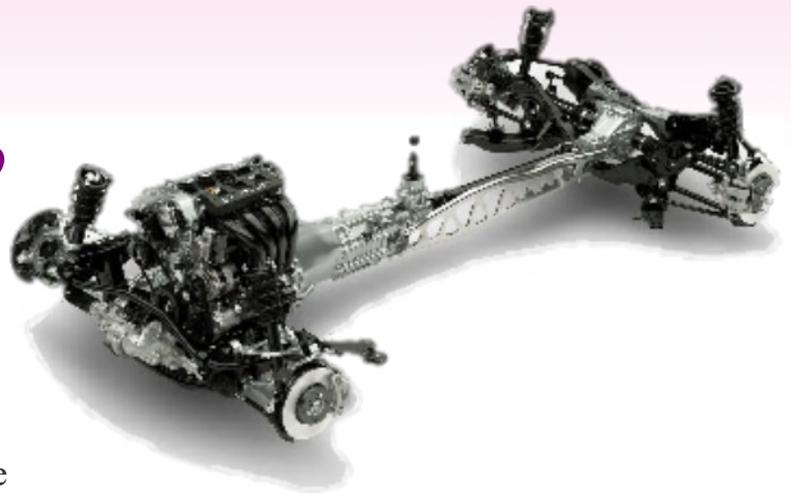
## *MX-5 News*

### *How Does A 181-Hp Mazda MX-5 Miata Sound To You?*

#### *Sounds about right...*

Since the dawn of time, or at least since the first Mazda MX-5 Miata rolled into the hearts of driving enthusiasts, armchair racers (and perhaps some actual racers) have begged Mazda to give the Miata more power. It's not that it really needs more power to be fun, it is already so rewarding because of how amazing it is at, well, everything. But when something is good, we always want more power. On March 2nd [we reported that the 2019 Mazda Miata might get that long-awaited power bump](#) based on filings with the NHTSA, but now internal Mazda documents came to light with juicy details reaffirming the 181 horsepower figure, including the expected powertrain revisions and the output they will generate. While we don't know where exactly in the rpm band the 2.0-liter SkyActiv-G will make that 181 hp or its 151 lb-ft of accompanying torque, Road & Track quotes the document saying that there will be "increased rev capacity". While we are all in favor of going straight to 8,000+ rpm, we'll be satisfied with anything north of its current 6,800-rpm redline.

Aside from that tune, some of the mechanical revisions are "ultra-light" pistons, lighter connecting rods, new crankshaft, larger, high-flow intake and exhaust, revised camshaft and a dual-mass flywheel to handle the extra power. Personally, I'd spend my money on a



lower, firmer suspension and stickier rubber, but that's even easier to fix through the aftermarket, so this is a big win for weekend racers. Than again, it's a shame Mazda engineers weren't more inspired by the Flyin' Miata guys. The powertrain isn't the only item on the update agenda, and the Canadian-sourced document lists a variety of revisions to their trims, as well as some choice features to make life easier and safer.

For safety, Mazda's Smart City Braking System will auto-brake for pedestrians and for convenience, the steering wheel will now telescope and a rearview camera helps you back up without hitting things. Anything that makes the Miata more practical is fine, but



answering the call of enthusiasts for more power is even better, so we're eager for the news to become official and see for ourselves what an extra 25 hp does for this already brilliant machine.

## Mazda Miata Gets Formula One Makeover, Has Zero Unworthiness Issues



We've seen one too many cases of the Mazda Miata getting bullied because it was minding its own business of serving its driver's purposes.

People who talk trash about the MX-5, or climb into a parked one because they think it's funny, treat the little Mazda as if it had unworthiness issues. And none of the four Miata generations Mazda has delivered so far has experienced more of this treatment than the original NA, with its kind-looking pop-up headlights.

Well, the little roadster you can see in the rendering we have here is ready to kick some Miata bully butt. Sure, the pop-ups are still around, but the car has been given a thorough Formula One makeover. And if anybody would be crazy enough to build such a car, it could probably make a Hellcat, or a Camaro Z11, cry during any kind of race.

And, for this reason alone, we'll tip our hats to Yasid Oozear, the digital artist who put these pixels together.

"There were some brilliant suggestions [from the Facebook audience] for the livery though but I had to finish this one in a Marlboro livery (could not resist, while watching RUSH, again)," the artist said, explaining the racecar's attire.

Come to think of it, we know one guy who might just fit the profile mentioned above and that's Mad Mike Whiddett. The Kiwi pro drifter has a thing for Mazdas, with an obvious fetish for Wankel power.

In fact, his current ride is an NC Miata that can easily trick an untrained spectator into believing it's an ND, the model you can currently find in showrooms.

And with 1,200 hp on tap, Mad Mike's Miata knows how to show Formula Drift competitors that violent slip angles and a square wheelbase can be put into the same sentence.

