

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



SHOW ME YOUR CURVES!

VOLUME 15,
No. 2
APRIL 2024

DRIVERS,
START YOUR
ENGINES!





Editor's Message

It's April Fool's Day ... and I feel like Mother Nature has been playing tricks on us throughout the entire winter season! Only a handful of major snowfalls, several thawing cycles, sap from maple trees running in early February and bare farm fields for weeks on end. What an unusual season!

There is a write-up of the Miataville Council Meeting on page 5. We appreciate the willingness of Rick Beutler to not only host that meeting, but to host the February Blahs Luncheon as well! The two events are also explained further in this newsletter.

Some possible single-day and multiple-day trips have been suggested and recorded, but very few activities and dates have already been pre-determined. To finalize some of our plans, we are requesting that everyone bring their personal planning calendars with them to the AGM on Sunday, April 21st in Orillia. Many of us have already made some plans for the spring and summer months, so bring that list of previous commitments with you to the meeting!

As many of you already know, Cal Lander has stepped aside from his Council role, largely due to his heavy involvement with household activities and the ongoing care for his wife, Gail. We are pleased that Gail continues to make steady progress as she works through her physio rehab program. I am happy that Cal has agreed to assist with the preparation of the newsletter, but we need to write and submit material as soon as events are finished so that the two of us are able to avoid the "last minute rush" to meet the publishing deadline. Cal's sophisticated computer program is great, but we also must give him enough "lead time" to put his publishing and printing skills to good use. I'm making a commitment to being more punctual and I hope that member contributors will also try harder to submit trip summaries ASAP.

Bob Macaulay has served as Activities Coordinator for over ten years and has been our unofficial leader and "go-to-guy" throughout the years. However, Bob is experiencing a serious health challenge, and thus, has stepped aside from his leadership role and has resigned from MoM Council. We sincerely thank Bob for his outstanding contributions to the growth and success of our club. Bob and Cal have been superb councilors, and we thank them for their services.

A few years ago, I printed a "brain teaser" about some men driving cars and playing sports. I've revised the puzzle and challenge all of you, women, and men, to deduce "Who Drives the Miata?"

See you at the AGM, I hope!

Dave



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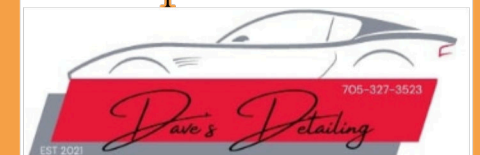
Electric Single-Seater Mazda Miata Is Perfect For Young Gearheads



Sponsors:

We are very thankful as a group to be able to have such good friends who are willing to give our organization a helping hand. We strongly urge the membership to give your business to these good folks. They have been a great ongoing support to us throughout the years.

Check out our most recent sponsor.



Dave currently specializes in car detailing and would be happy to provide any of the Miatas of Muskoka club members with a 20% discount on any of his services.

Call or Text today to book your appointment
705-327-3523

Dave VanHuis serving Orillia area since 2021



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SHOW ME YOUR CURVES!

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

Visit our Website at

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

Or check us out on facebook:
miatasofmuskoka



Our
Cover

Another cruising season
about to start.



Miata of Muskoka 2024 Cruise Event Schedule

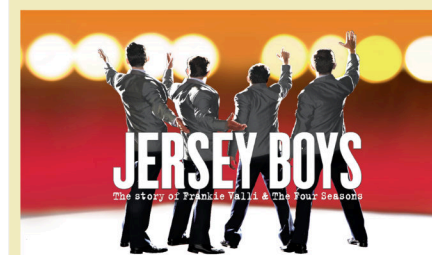


Saturday May 4 Spring Fling



This annual day cruise is geographically located to include as many MoM members and guests as possible, and to start off the season with a zoom-zoom! More details to follow at the AGM, with Rick Beutler and Brian Atkinson as Cruise Director(s).

COMING.....



Saturday, August 24,
2024 at 2:00 PM

We have reserved a block of seats for the Miatas of Muskoka to attend this excellent show on Saturday, August 24th. Tickets will be available on a "first come-first serve" basis. We will have a cruise beforehand, a picnic lunch, the KWT performance and then go out for dinner afterwards. This will be our seventh trip to the King's Wharf Theatre with the MoM club and all of the shows have been terrific. This one will

be equally entertaining! There will be more information via email later on, but you should circle the date on your personal planning calendar NOW to make sure you are able to attend. Here's a brief description from the Drayton website:

They had a look, an attitude, and a sound like no other. Sure, they were born in Jersey – but they were made in America.

Jersey Boys is the international musical phenomenon that takes you behind the scenes – and behind the music – of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Discover the secret of a 40-year friendship as four blue-collar guys work their way from the wrong side of the tracks to the heights of stardom, thrilling audiences with electrifying performances of chart-topping hits including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Oh What a Night," and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You."

From the streets of New Jersey to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, this is the musical that's just too good to be true. Don't miss this Tony®, Grammy®, and Olivier Award-winning Best Musical.

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How Easy is it to be a Cruise Director?

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Very! I remember 2 AGM's ago, when I first joined MoM, and volunteered to become a Cruise Director (with trusty co-pilot Brian!) for the Spring Fling event in May as kind of our initiation. I soon discovered that becoming a Cruise Director was easier than I thought, especially since:

- a) you can choose a route you are familiar with that is close to your home;
- b) there are many previous routes that you can access in our [Newsletter Archives'](#) Cruise Director reports;
- c) mentoring is provided if you like;
- d) \$50 is provided to test drive the route and for correspondence; and
- e) you are a hero among your fellow members because we all LOVE driving our Miatas!

So, BEFORE the April 21st AGM, do think about areas close to your home and tentative date(s) that you would like to explore and lead a cruise. If you've been a Cruise Director, Lead, or Sweep in previous cruises, here's your chance to do it again, and add your own – dare I say -- *twist*. Here's also the link to our [January 2024 Newsletter](#) for the pictorial "2023 Year in Review", and feel free to view previous [Newsletters](#) for more details, to help inspire this year's cruises!

Cheers, Rick Beutler

Miatas of Muskoka – 2024 Cruise Suggestions for Consideration

Below you will find a list of suggested cruise ideas for MoM's 2024 cruising season. These are being offered for membership discussion and consideration at our upcoming AGM. Please note that not all of these ideas will be included on the final cruise list for this season...the variety shown below is simply intended to offer some choice for member consideration and selection. Any other cruise suggestions for discussion are of course most welcome – whether or not you are able to attend the AGM, please forward any cruise suggestions (before April 20) to Rick Beutler via email at rickbeutler@hotmail.com. The cruises ultimately selected at the AGM will depend on membership interest in each case.

As you review this list, please also note the following:

- ◆ Several of the prospective cruises below already have established dates, as noted in **red font**. The rest of the suggestions in this list still have "Dates TBD" (to be determined, with **suggested time frames**.)

◆ Similarly, several of these cruise ideas already have identified CDs (Cruise Directors), as noted in **bold font**, who have volunteered to plan and lead them, should they make the final list of selected cruises which results from consideration at the AGM. The rest are shown as "CD required." Please consider volunteering as CD for one of these cruises.

◆ Also shown below are numerous suggested activities for our 4 "special" ice cream runs, which are also to be considered and selected at the AGM. For those of you planning to attend the AGM, please print this list and bring it with you, along with your personal calendar. Please be prepared to discuss these cruise ideas (and any other ideas suggested by members) and to indicate your interest in participating in each case, so we can finalize a selected list of 2024 cruises. For those of you unable to attend the AGM, please review this list and advise (**before April 20**) via email to Rick Beutler at rickbeutler@hotmail.com which of these cruises you would be interested in.

Overnight Cruise Ideas

1. a 2-overnight cruise to Gananoque/Thousand Islands - possibly including boat cruise?

Dates TBD (early July?) [CD Terry Day + Co-CD TBC]

2. a 1-overnight cruise to Goderich/Bayfield area

Dates TBD (early August?) [CD Terry Day TBC]

3a & 3b. a 1-overnight cruise to St. Jacob's Farmers' Market & Village OR a 2-overnight cruise to St. Jacob's and other destination(s) in southwestern Ontario

Dates TBD (early August?) [CDs required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]

Day Cruise Ideas

4. the usual Spring Fling day-cruise to open our season. This tour is geographically located to include as many current members and guests as possible within Simcoe and Muskoka (details to follow at AGM). **Saturday May 4** [CDs Rick Beutler & Brian Atkinson]

5. a destination event Show N' Shine at Georgian College Auto Show in Barrie, maximum 8 cars on display to promote MoM club. (Details to follow at AGM) **Saturday June 7** [Organizers Rick Beutler & Brian Atkinson]

6. a day-cruise Kawartha Scenic Tour. Starting in Orillia with a stop at the Minden Wild Water Park and Buttermilk Falls into Buckhorn for lunch. Then east, through Bobcaygeon, stop at Fenelon Falls, back to Orillia at Kawartha ice cream store.

(details to follow at AGM). Possible dates June 11 - 14, July 16 – 18 [CD Rick Vendor + Co-CD TBC]

7. a destination event Gravenhurst *Father's Day Saturday Auto Show* with several MoM cars on display. Claude Mikolainis confirming some details. **Saturday June 15 [Organizer required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]**

8. a day-cruise to Balsam Lake "Dry Stone Fences" and Kirkfield Liftlock. Doug Jackson can act as mentor for cruise director. **Date TBD [CD required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]**

9. a day-cruise northeast of Orillia, with lunch stop at *Couchiching Court Buffet OR Tailwinds Bar & Grill* at Orillia-Ramara Airport (Lake St. John). **Date TBD [CD required - ask for volunteers at AGM]**

10. a day-cruise/lunch into *Haliburton County*, say Dorset OR Hawk Lake area. **Date TBD [CD required - ask for volunteers at AGM]**

11. some picnic day-cruises (locations TBD...*Magnetawan Lions' Park*, or ??)

a) a day-cruise (lunch or picnic) to *Whitestone/Magnetawan* (central Parry Sound District). **Date TBD (late July?) [CD required - ask for volunteers at AGM]**

b) Possibly a day cruise to the eventual destination of the *Thomas Foster Memorial* in Uxbridge? **Date TBD [CD required - ask for volunteers at AGM]**

c) Base Borden or Varney previous cruises. **Date TBD [CD required - ask for volunteers at AGM]**

12. a destination event *Orillia Downtown Auto Show* with several MoM cars on display. Claude Mikolainis confirming some details. **Saturday August 17 [Organizer required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]**

13. a day-cruise to Alliston area for a tour of the *Honda Manufacturing Plant* (if/when public tours again available...tours currently still suspended for COVID reasons, but may happen later). **Date TBD (some time in August?) [CD Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]**

14. the usual day-cruise picnic and matinee theatre event at *King's Wharf Theatre* in Penetang, to see "*Jersey Boys*". **Saturday August 24 [CDs - Doug & Sheila Jackson]**

15. a day-cruise (picnic) to a different destination (e.g. *Sudbury Big Nickel*, etc.) **Date TBD (July, August, or September?) [CD Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]**

16a. & b. a day-cruise to *Martyrs' Shrine* (Midland) OR *Naval Establishments* (Penetang) tour with costumed interpreter. **Date TBD (some time in September?) [CD Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]**

17. a day-cruise *Fall Picnic Tour* to Haliburton Peak which is essentially the same as last year but with some route improvements and additional interesting stops.

Suggested possible dates are Sept 26 – 28 [CD Rick Vendor]

18a. & b. the usual *Fall Colours* day-cruise to finish our cruising season, 1 weekend before Thanksgiving weekend. Last year's October 5 cruise included Ottawa's *Underground Miata Network*. Two different points:

a. -- *Fall Colours Tour* day-cruise. **October 3 or 7 (?) [CD Required - ask for volunteers at AGM]**

b. -- 1-overnight cruise for Ottawa's *Underground Miata Network* 25-year anniversary. Gord Bauldry to provide info on this. **Date TBD (October?) [CD Required - ask for volunteers at AGM]**

"Special" Ice Cream Run Ideas

Ideally once a month (i.e. June, July, and September are open) and in different communities; ≥ 4 events to be chosen.

◆ Corn Roast + Ice Cream

Date TBD Aug 10 to 19 [Organizer(s) TBC Selina in Midhurst or Sue in Orillia?]

◆ Weber's August Tuesday Nights Outdoor Auto Show + Ice Cream

Tuesday August 13 @ 4 to 9 pm [Organizers Rick Beutler & Brian Atkinson]

◆ Mini-golf + lunch/ice cream e.g. like 2023's *Santa's Village* event or ...?

Date TBD [Organizer(s) Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]

◆ Axe-throwing + Ice Cream

Date TBD [Organizer(s) Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]

◆ Bowling + Ice Cream

Date TBD [Organizer(s) Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]

◆ Tour of OPP Museum (Orillia) + Ice Cream

Date TBD [Organizer(s) Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]

◆ Potluck/bocce + Ice Cream

Date TBD [Organizer(s) Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]

◆ Scavenger Hunt + Ice Cream

Date TBD [Organizer(s) Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]

◆ Other + Ice Cream

Date TBD [Organizer(s) Required -- ask for volunteers at AGM]



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



2024 Annual General Meeting Reminder

Who's Invited: All members and their guests

When: **SUNDAY APRIL 21, 2024**

1:30PM Sharp to 4:30PM

(doors open at 1:00 pm)

Where: Ramara Centre, Community Hall, 5482 ON-12,
Orillia, ON L3V 6H7

Details:

Planning for the 2024 Zoom season

Bring your ideas for cruises

Consider being a cruise director (mentors available)

2024 Club Merchandise will be for sale (pre-order only)

Membership payment due (\$50) payment via e-transfer

Muffins/cookies and bottled water provided

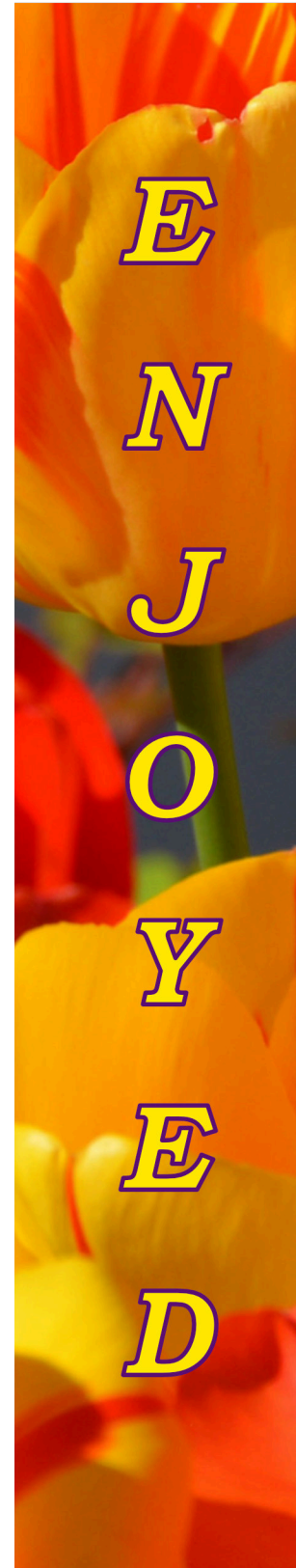
RSVP by email to
rickbeutler@hotmail.com by Wednesday April 17th



Miata of Muskoka Council Meeting



Saturday, January 27, 2024



Rick Beutler hosted the lunch meeting for the Miataville Council on a bright and sunny January afternoon. The "Executive Meetings" have traditionally been held in members' homes, starting with the Bauldry's, then the Lander's, then the Macaulay's, and now in Rick and Brian's condo. This year, the lunch was made by Dino's, a popular Midland deli that makes HUGE sandwiches. After salads and sandwiches, and the anticipated KD ice cream, we all got down to the rather lengthy agenda. Well, the agenda itself wasn't particularly long, but we had lots of enthusiastic discussion which took up most of the afternoon! It's always nice to be a "Fly-on-the-Wall" at these annual gatherings, where the needs of the group are so thoroughly discussed. Bob had prepared his usual comprehensive agenda, but in his absence due to illness, Carol and Rick tag-teamed the discussions. Watch for an extensive list of possible cruise destinations to be circulated prior to the AGM and then make plans to attend the meeting on April 21 in Orillia to help us finalize a number of key dates and cruise destinations. Remember to bring your personal planning calendars to help make some important decisions!



Feb 24th

As usual, Mother Nature demonstrated she IS a Miata of MuskCoka (MoM) fan by providing a sunny day to chase away the February 24th blahs. In total, 21 people attended with 19 MoM members proudly wearing their MoM attire and name badges: Gord Bauldry, Wendy Bazuk, Cec Colbourne, Dale Colbourne, Lindsey Day, Terry Day, Cathy Fedorowich, Mike Fedorowich, Lynda Gigg, Sam Gigg, Sheila Jackson, Doug Jackson, Cal Lander, Gail Lander, Michael Topping, Sue Topping, Susan Wellman, hosted by Rick Beutler and Brian Atkinson. Diane Ouimet-Schryver and Ron Schryver are our friends and neighbours (who are proud owners of a Cranberry 2008 NB PRHT Automatic) and were our 2 guests for this event. See pictures attached (thanks Doug and Michael!).

Just before lunch, everyone introduced themselves for the mutual benefit of guests and members. This including sharing their unique and fun stories of why and how they chose a Miata and became MoM members, and some of the many adventures they have already experienced.

This year our theme was to have a "Cheap Thrills" February Blahs Lunch, since we've heard and seen way too much about inflation recently. So, the lunch menu supported this theme by offering various sandwiches, mixed fruit, soft drinks, cookies, banana bread, and kit kat ice cream bars (yes, ice cream of course!) – all for \$14 per person! The comfy Party Room in our Midland condo (699 Aberdeen Blvd) served as a fun "warm-up" venue to give us more time and space to socialize after not seeing each other for months.



There were also more cheap thrills, where we could click this link to find your own online Miata

MX-5 Brochure and watch this recent video Miata MX-5 story with Jason Cammisa of Hagerty. Yup, that's even cheaper because it's free! Terry and Lindsey took this a step further by bringing in and displaying: their pictures of members, cars and scenery at Miata touring events; a Diecast 1/18 Scale model with matching colours of their Miata; and many Miata brochures, one of which was an ND Japanese version that they picked up at the train station while visiting in Japan.

Overall, we had lots of laughs, stories, and conversation provided by our Miata folks ... plus feedback like "Great event last Saturday at your condo party room" and "Thank you for organizing our February Blahs luncheon. It was so good to see everyone. You both are the hosts with the most! Your planning and efforts are greatly appreciated".

Thanks to everyone who was able to make this event a success by attending, and for the kind words!

We look forward to seeing all of our MoM members at the April 21 AGM!

Cheers,

Rick (and Brian)





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Some members have expressed interest in purchasing branded hats and/or shirts with our Miatas of Muskoka logo embroidered on them, like last spring. I am continuing to work with local supplier, Graffiti Art, to make that happen again this year, so please watch for more information over the next few weeks via email from rickbeutler@hotmail.com and at our AGM on April 21st.



F.
Y.
I.

by Doug Jackson

Sometimes in our brief 'Driver's Meetings' before we set off on a cruise, we warn drivers to be aware of the "Slinky Effect" and to make appropriate actions. But what is the Slinky Effect?

Perhaps the best way to visualize it is to remember the famous childhood toy that we watched walk down stair steps and allowed to walk from hand to hand with its stretchy wire coils. Some of you may have played with the Slinky Dog and watched what happened when it was pulled along the floor. If you were a gentle child, you would pull the cord slowly and steadily and the whole toy would move as a unit with the head and tail staying the same distance apart. However, we all remember giving the head a sudden pull and then watching gleefully as the tail end moved super-fast in order to catch up with the head! Great fun! But if you remember, it didn't have to be a violent, sudden jerk on the cord, just an ordinary pull from a stopped position caused the tail section to move at a faster pace in order to regain its rightful place behind the head.



Hikers and mountain climbers are aware of the slinky effect, sometimes frustratingly aware, depending on where they are in the line of hikers. Here's a quote from one of their hiking magazines:



The Slinky Effect appears whenever a group is trying to go in the same direction, and something disrupts movement towards a goal. Imagine we're on a challenging climb up a big hill carrying a 50 lb pack. The first person in the line moves forward until they get tired and stop for a break. One by one, the rest of the group arrives, from the climb. The first people rest and relax until, finally, the last person catches up to the group. Now that the group is together, it's



time to start moving again. Right? After a quick break, the leaders are anxious to keep moving. Some call it the Courtesy Wait. Others call it the FU Wait. What we call the wait depends on the group, or more importantly, our position in the group. Sometimes in a group, the person at the back may never get a break. That's the Slinky Effect. The back of the line makes bigger adjustments, rushing with limited information, trying to keep up, while the people in front wonder why everyone else is so slow and can't wait to keep going.

So, what does this toy reflection and hiking quote have to do with Miata Club cruises? Sometimes when we stop for a break on a cruise, we may think, or overhear someone mutter, "Holy crap, I was going 110 in an 80 zone trying to catch up to you guys". That's not because of speeding from the leader but the "Slinky Effect" in action. Before the next cruising season begins, we should remember several things. Cruise leaders should limit their speed to +10% of the posted number; followers going through stop signs/lights should be right behind the car in front; drivers in the middle of the group should avoid creating gaps with the car in front, then accelerating to close the gap; sweeps at the back should be observant of the actions of the cars ahead and feel supportive of making recommendations over the CB; if we need to travel through highly congested cities or towns, then make the group size smaller by creating two or more sub-groups and then reconvening when in more favourable driving conditions.



If you want more information about the "Slinky Effect", the "Accordion Effect", the "Phantom Intersection", or "Traffic Snakes", then consult YouTube for some interesting videos. The accordion effect on expressways and on racetracks is particularly interesting. Some or suggestions are:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHzzSao6ypE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L45HwjzMu0g>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNokBgtSUvQ>



September 6, 2023



Who Drives the Miata?



There are five cottages in row on a Muskoka Lake, each painted a different colour. In each cottage lives a woman who comes from a different city. The five owners each prefer a different variety of wine, enjoy a different activity, and drive a particular convertible. Using the clues below, try to determine the lady who drives the Miata!

The woman from Toronto lives in the red cottage.

The woman from Milton drives a BMW.

The lady from Barrie drinks Riesling.

The grey cottage is on the left of the white cottage.

The woman who does Pilates drives a Porsche.

The grey cottage owner drinks chardonnay.

The owner of the brown cottage enjoys swimming.

The woman living in the cottage right in the middle drinks shiraz.

The woman from Whitby lives in the first cottage.

The woman who does yoga lives next door to the one who drives a Corvette.

The lady who drives a Mustang lives next door to the one who enjoys swimming.

The owner who plays tennis drinks zinfandel.

The woman from Aurora plays golf.

The woman from Whitby lives next door to the blue cottage.

The woman who does yoga has a next-door neighbor who drinks merlot.

Who drives the Miata?

Cottages	1	2	3	4	5
City					
Wine					
Activity					
Convertible					

