



# The CAR Enthusiast

July 2004

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## *The President's Post*

By Mike Kline

Since last month's Tech Day plans didn't quite work out, we're trying it again in July. Wally and Dina Simpkins have offered to host a Tech Day at their place in Owings, MD once again. They have a huge two car garage and air tools for any project, as well as a long driveway with plenty of parking. Last year we installed a turbo, rollbar, chassis braces, and brake fluid changes for everyone. I'm sure we'll have just as much on the to-do list this year. So come on down to Wally and Dina's place on Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to bring your favorite dish or beverage of choice. I'm keeping my fingers crossed for some of Dina's famous enchiladas!

Do you have questions about the club? Need to get some expert advice on your Miata? Or would you like to just hang out with a bunch of great people? Here's your chance. Be sure to make it down to The Green Turtle restaurant in Laurel, MD on Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> for the July monthly membership meeting. Things will kick off at 7:00pm. Check the Events Section of the forum or the newsletter for more info.

Join us for the 2nd annual CAR-DelVal Crab Run! We'll all meet in Crofton, MD and then head over to the eastern shore to meet up with the DelVal Miata club. From there we will check out the local county fair and then continue on to "The Waterman's" restaurant in Rock Hall, Maryland to indulge in Eastern Shore delicacies from the waters of the Chesapeake Bay. Check out the forum for details.

With the autocross season in full swing, we have a few upcoming events for this month. Be sure to make it out to the N.E. Divisional Championship held at Ripken Field in Aberdeen, MD July 23-25. Besides the national tour, it's the largest autocross event to hit the area. Check the Motorsports section of the forum for more details about this and the many other autocross events happening this month.

# *CAR's "Silver" Lining*

## By Christian LeHew

Looking back on it now, it seems like almost yesterday when I first met Elaine Farrell, aka "silvermiata", inside Don Pablo's on a cold November afternoon in 2001.

I suppose you could call it the very first meeting of what was to later become the Chesapeake Area Roadsters Miata Club, but that day it was just a bunch of enthusiastic Miata owners all getting together to meet each other and talk about cars. Little did I know that the outgoing blonde to my right was going to become a great friend and Miata peer. And since Elaine was the only other M1 Miata owner there, we bonded instantly.

Elaine drove an early Silverstone Metallic 1990 Miata, and even on that cold day, the car's top was down in true motoring fashion. Even in the years following our first meeting, I can still count on one hand the times I've seen silvermiata's top up!

And now, nearly three years later, I can look back on Elaine and her Miata with many fond memories.

I remember sitting in her den late one night with a group of friends making fun of Corvette owners. I remember wet sanding her Miata's hood to try and bring a better shine to that beautiful silver. I remember eating fabulous Italian food while my wife and Elaine talked about Kate Spade purses and the fashion influence of Coco Chanel. I remember the fun we all had replacing silvermiata's motor on a hot day in Brad's driveway. I remember all the great drives we've gone on together, and all the great times we've shared.

But most of all, I have great memories of her enthusiasm not only for the Miata, but for the love of sports cars and the people who drive them.

As many of you know by now, Elaine was fortunate enough to be offered her dream job, which will take her to Birmingham, Alabama in just a few days after you read this.

Well, if the truth be told, her dream job would have been working for Coco Chanel, but this is indeed a great step for her and I know she'll do great things. Heck, she's already scared the living crap out of the autocrossers down there!

Elaine was one of the founding members of the club. She's been here from the beginning, and her enthusiasm helped create the club and make it the great club it is today.

I know we're all going to miss her friendly smile, that mischievous gleam in her eye, and the flash of silver and exhaust howl that we've come to recognize as silvermiata.

So while it would be selfish to ask her to stay, I wish her all the best. May the road you travel always be easy-going, but occasionally twisty & traffic-free!

## *New CAR Club Members*

If you've been on the forums or been out to a recent club event, you've no doubt seen a bunch of new members and new cars. So if you see someone you don't know, make sure to go introduce yourself, whether it's your first event or you're a regular. After all, the CAR Club is already well known for our hospitality!

## *Recent Sightings*

Found a Miata in a junkyard or under a tarp in somebody's back yard? Post it here!

JD Veray found this one up in Connecticut this weekend with NO PHONE NUMBER! He says he'll be going back in two weeks if anyone wants him to check it out. He can't vouch for this car but just wanted to show that there ARE good ones out there if you're willing to travel and be patient.

1996 Montego blue/black. Nice top, good body. 179,000 miles with all maintenance records. \$4900 o.b.o(faded sign=I'd bet they would take less)

JD also recently came across this 1992:

Baltimore Auto Recycling, Inc.  
T/A Crazy Ray's Auto Parts  
6201 Erdman Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21205  
410-488-6650

1992 Red-nose hit, light roll, no drivetrain, seats, console, wheels - pretty stripped over. Still has many small parts including a good rear bumper, trunklid, both outer vent eyeballs, interior trim, engine bay parts, and a useable top frame. Accurate as of 3/13/04

## *Monthly Miata Meetings*

As many of you know, we're holding monthly meetings every third Thursday at 7:00pm to not only grab something to eat, but to discuss everything from club business to Formula One racing to whatever. This is a great opportunity for anyone who would like to come out and meet some of the members in a casual environment, and you don't even need to wash the car. Plus, it'll give you a chance to talk directly to the club administrators with your input or questions.

So bring a friend, a family member, or a new Miata owner, but most importantly, bring yourself out to one of our monthly membership meetings! See the upcoming events section below for this month's location. **IF YOU HAVE A SUGGESTION FOR A PLACE TO HOLD THE MEETING, DROP A LINE TO ANY OF THE OFFICERS.**

## *Events with other clubs*

The idea has been brought up to see about doing an event or two with another car club. Not necessarily another Miata club, but perhaps a Triumph club, Jaguar club, etc. As you can probably assume, there are quite a few car clubs in the area, so if you're a member of one, know someone who is, or just think of one that would be cool to spend the day with (I'm leaning towards Ferrari, myself!), then feel free to drop us a line with the contact info, and we'll take it from there.

## *'The Parts Department' - your source for all your CAR club needs*

The "Parts Department" is back online, and open for business! We have T-shirts. We have sweatshirts. We have hats. We have clocks. We have oversized "holy-crap-that's-a-lot-of-coffee" coffee mugs. And they all come with the official CAR Miata club logo in full living color. So if you're looking for some great new Miata club swag, check out the online store at <http://www.cafeshops.com/chesroadsters>.

## *Become a famous, published author!*

Have you just completed a cool project on your Miata that you want to share with other club members? Did you attend an event that was so cool you want to write an article about it? Find a new road that seems like it was designed *just for* Miatas? Got an idea for a future event or article? Then drop us a line and we'll put it in next month's issue. The submission deadline for the July newsletter is July 26<sup>th</sup>. All submissions can be sent to Christian LeHew at [info@phpwebhosting.blueroadster.com](mailto:info@phpwebhosting.blueroadster.com).

## *It's not too late for a plate!*

If there was ever a reason to put a plate back on the front of your car, this is it. Through a special program with the Maryland MVA, we've been able to apply for special CAR Miata Club license plates! A sample plate is shown below, but if we get enough interest, you can order one of these for only \$25 per set. Heck, you can even put a set on your other non-Miata vehicles! Also, if you've just renewed your registration, the MVA tells us they'll issue you another inspection decal for the new plate. We're currently taking names, so if you're interested, contact:

Mike Kline - [president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)

Kirk Rambow - [vicepresident@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:vicepresident@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)



## *A Place to Race*

If you've gone to any autocrossing events this past year, you've probably heard one of us (or someone else) griping about the lack of racing sites in the area. "So what can I do?" Glad you asked.

The autocross community is always on the lookout for new venues where we can race. In a perfect world, they'd be smooth, flat, free of traffic islands, and about 20 miles away from a residential area. Event organizers realize not all these parameters can always be met, but there's been a plea to the community to help find some new sites where we can go racing. Maybe it's the parking lot at work. Or a big school parking lot. Or your friend's airfield.

So if you know of an area that you think might be a possibility, PLEASE let one of the officers know, and we'll have one of the local officials check it out.

If you're interested in participating in autocross this year or have any questions, please drop a line to Jay DeLeyos (jaymond - [treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)), Ben Harper (djarum69 - [webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)), or Mike Kline (GoKart - [president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)).

## *Past Events & Happenings*

### **Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> – Scenic Drive**

By now, I'm convinced this drive is hexed. In the past, we've braved sleet, electrical problems, extreme heat, crazy operating hours, and now we can add torrential downpours to the list. Yep, it rained hard all day, but still wasn't enough to keep six cars from coming out for some great BBQ and twisty roads through Carroll and Howard counties. Since the route is a favorite, we may have to try this one again soon.

### **Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> – Monthly member meeting**

This month's meeting was held down south at Dave & Buster's in Rockville. The weather was a bit unsettled, but eight cars braved the elements and came out for a night of food, fun, and video games. Look for next month's meeting in the "Upcoming Events" section.

### **Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> – Going Away party for Elaine (silvermiata)**

We'll be sad to see her go, but the party that Brad Albert threw in her honor was one heck of a sendoff! By now you probably know that Elaine is moving away, but we couldn't let her go without saying goodbye in true CAR Club fashion! I think the only thing missing was a drive to Deal's Gap....

## *Upcoming Events*

*Please RSVP where indicated. For full details, check out the Events section of the CAR forum at <http://www.chesapeakeroadsters.com>. If you have an idea for a future event, please drop a line to Mike Kline at [president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com).*

### **Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup> 2004 – Tech Day**

Wally and Dina Simpkins have once again invited the CAR Miata club to the homestead for a tech day! If you went last October, you no doubt remember Dina's AMAZING Mexican food! Oh yeah, and the turbo install, roll bar install, brake bleedings, yada yada....

But if you didn't, you should know that a tech day at Wally & Dina's is not one to be missed, so be sure to mark your calendars and make plans to attend. As always, bring your favorite food and beverages, and maybe if we ask REALLY nicely, they'll even let us swim in the pool.

DIRECTIONS TO 9185 NANA RUSSELL RD, OWINGS, MD 20736:

From the Annapolis area:

South on Rt.2 heading toward Prince Frederick in Calvert Co.

Right at the Calvert/Ann Arundel Co border is Rt 260. Take a left at the light heading east toward Chesapeake Beach. About 8/10th of a mile on the left you'll see Nana Russell RD...turn left and go straight down the hill. At the bottom of the hill you'll see 3 parallel driveways...mine is the one on the right.

From the DC Beltway:

Take Rt 4 (Pennsylvania Ave) south toward Prince Frederick in Calvert Co. Continue south until you see the exit for Rt. 260 toward Chesapeake Beach. Continue east crossing Rt 2 (light). About 8/10th of a mile past the Rt 2/260 intersection on the left you'll see Nana Russell Rd....turn left and go straight down the hill. At the bottom of the hill you'll see 3 parallel driveways...mine is the one on the right.

If you end up in the Bay you've gone too far

Any questions, give them a call (301) 812-1452.

**Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 2004 – WDCR/SCCA Championship #4 Autocross**

Look for more details on the CAR club forum, or just come out to Fed Ex Field and cheer on your fellow club members! If you're interested in participating in autocross this year or have any questions, please drop a line to: Jay DeLeyos (jaymond) - [treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)) or Ben Harper (djarum69) - [webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)).

**Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> 2004 – Monthly membership meeting**

Monthly member meeting, 7:00 as usual. Due to popular demand, we'll be back at The Greene Turtle in Laurel. Just ask the hostess for the Miata Club table. As usual, bring any ideas you may have for the coming year, your enthusiasm, and any questions or concerns you may have. Plus, we even have a private room, so (as usual) there's a possibility of Mike Kline doing some table dancing.

Normally, I'd give directions, but their site has much better directions than what I can give, so I'll just direct you to there. It's not too far from 95 or 198, and it's pretty easy to get to as long as you can find Rt. 1 and Laurel. It's also in front of a Best Buy.

<http://thegreenturtle.com/laurel/>

**Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> 2004 – Scenic Drive/Crab Run**

We'll be joining up with the Del Val, PACE, LVMOC & MDMC Miata clubs at The Waterman's Restaurant in Rock Hall, MD. It's completely new (thanks to Hurricane Isabel), but the crabs still have that great taste. And if time permits, we may even check out the local county fair.

We'll meet in front of the Safeway at The Waugh Chapel Village in Crofton, MD at 10:00am for a 10:30am departure. The Safeway is at the corner of Rt. 3 and Waugh Chapel Road in Crofton. Directions are listed below. Also, don't forget the toll for the Bay Bridge is a one-time \$2.50.

### DIRECTIONS:

Take 97 to the Rt. 3/Rt. 32 exit South towards Annapolis (NOT the "Rt. 3 Business" exit) - RT. 3 is Crain Hwy.

Follow Rt. 3 and turn right at the second light onto Waugh Chapel Road

At the first light, turn Left into the Safeway Shopping Center and we'll be over on the left.

### **Friday, Saturday & Sunday – July 23-25 –Northeast Divisional Championships**

Look for more details on the CAR club forum, or just come out to Ripkin Stadium in Aberdeen and cheer on your fellow club members as they vie for the Northeast Divisional title! If you're interested in participating in autocross this year or have any questions, please drop a line to:

Jay DeLeyos (jaymond) - [treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com))

or Ben Harper (djarum69) - [webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)).

### **Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup> 2004 – MWCSCC Autocross at Rosecroft Raceway**

Look for more details on the CAR club forum, or just come out to Rosecroft Raceway and cheer on your fellow CAR Miata Club members! If you're interested in participating in autocross this year or have any questions, please drop a line to:

Jay DeLeyos (jaymond) - [treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com))

or Ben Harper (djarum69) - [webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)).

### **Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup> 2004 – Tech Day**

You've probably seen him at any one of the tech days lending a hand to help out a fellow member, but Bill Carlson (known as wwc) has offered up his garage and driveway in Crofton for our August Tech Day. As usual, bring your upcoming Miata projects and your favorite food and beverages.

### DIRECTIONS TO 1453 JORDAN AVE, CROFTON MD FROM SOUTH, EAST, OR WEST:

1. Going either east or west on US Rt. 50 in Maryland (depending on where you start), exit (16) at MD 424, head north a bit more than 3 miles.
2. You will pass through 2 traffic lights, one at MD 450 the other at Underwood. You are now close. Take the third LEFT on LAYTON.
3. At end (1 block) turn RIGHT on CROFTON PARKWAY
4. Take the first RIGHT on KNIGHTSBRIDGE TURN.
5. Take the first LEFT on JORDAN AVE. I am at 1453 Jordan Ave

### DIRECTIONS FROM THE NORTH:

1. Head south on I-97, take exit 7, Rt. 3 South
2. Go about 5 miles, turn LEFT on MD424 (clue: you just passed McDonald's)
3. Go a bit less than 2 miles, turn RIGHT on LAYTON. If you reach MD450 you have gone too far, turn around and proceed from instruction 2 above.
4. At end (1 block) turn RIGHT on CROFTON PARKWAY
5. Take the first RIGHT on KNIGHTSBRIDGE TURN.
6. Take the first LEFT on JORDAN AVE. I am at 1453 Jordan Ave.

## **Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 2004 – WDCR/SCCA Championship #5 Autocross**

Look for more details on the CAR club forum, or just come out to Fed Ex Field and cheer on your fellow club members! If you're interested in participating in autocross this year or have any questions, please drop a line to: Jay DeLeyos (jaymond) - [treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)) or Ben Harper (djarum69) - [webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)).

## **Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> 2004 – MWCSCC Autocross at Rosecroft Raceway**

Look for more details on the CAR club forum, or just come out to Rosecroft Raceway and cheer on your fellow CAR Miata Club members! If you're interested in participating in autocross this year or have any questions, please drop a line to:

Jay DeLeyos (jaymond) - [treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)) or Ben Harper (djarum69) - [webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)).

## **Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup> 2004 – Monthly membership meeting**

Monthly member meeting, 7:00 as usual. Place TBD.

## **Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup> 2004 – Scenic Drive**

If you're up for spending the day putting some mileage on the car and driving on some of the twistiest, hilliest roads outside of Deals Gap, NC, then mark Saturday, October 18th on your calendars.

We'll be meeting at the Mars Supermarket on the corner of Harford Road and Joppa Road just north of Baltimore at 10:15am for a 10:30am departure. From there, we'll head north through Bel Air, across Conowingo Dam and the Susquehanna River, and on towards Kennett Square and through some twisty roads in the woods and farmlands of SE Pennsylvania and northern Delaware. We'll stop for lunch at the Brandywine Brewing Company, then make our way back towards Baltimore. It should be a lot of fun, and the roads are great, so bring a friend, and your Miata, and come out for a fantastic drive!

Just as a note, I've been asked to run parts of this drive at a more "spirited" pace than usual. We will be passing out directions though, so if you'd like to go, but don't feel comfortable with the group's pace, you are welcome to enjoy it at your own pace and won't have to worry about getting lost (the time difference should only be a few minutes anyway).

**Please RSVP to Christian by August 18<sup>th</sup> so we can tell the restaurant how many to expect.**

### **DIRECTIONS TO THE MARS SUPERMARKET:**

Take the Baltimore Beltway (route 695) north of Baltimore to exit 31B (Harford Road north).

At the first light, you'll see the shopping center on the corner on your right.

We'll be parked out in the lot on the Joppa Road side.

## **Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> 2004 – MWCSCC Autocross at Rosecroft Raceway**

Look for more details on the CAR club forum, or just come out to Rosecroft Raceway and cheer on your fellow CAR Miata Club members! If you're interested in participating in autocross this year or have any questions, please drop a line to:

Jay DeLeyos (jaymond) - [treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com))  
or Ben Harper (djarum69) - [webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com](mailto:webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com)).

*Support your sponsors!*

### **CONGRESSIONAL MAZDA**

<http://www.congressionalmazda.com>

301-424-7800

- 15% discount on all parts

### **ENDLESS ROAD**

<http://www.endlessroad.com>

301-497-0369

- 10% off all in-stock items

\* Be sure to ask about available Miata memorabilia!

### **MIATANUTS**

<http://www.miatanuts.com>

866-642-8268.

- 10% off all Jackson Racing products

- 1/2 price shipping on Hard Dog Roll Bars (savings of between \$25 & \$32.50/ bar)

- 20% off all apparel (polo shirts, tees, fleece pullovers, vests, jackets)

If there is something else that you may be interested in, contact them about that specific item and they'll work with you the best they can. They even sell BMW and MINI parts too!

### **RICH MORTON MAZDA**

<http://www.richmorton.com>

866-260-6028

- Exclusive CAR member discounts on all parts and service