



The CAR Enthusiast

May 2004

The President's Post

By Mike Kline

It's getting warmer outside and things are really starting to heat up in the CAR community. So get ready, we have quite a few great events coming up in the next couple of months.

Put on your 6" exhaust tips and your phattest bling-bling wheels cause were heading up to Harrisburg, PA on Saturday, 5/15 for the Carlisle Custom Compact show. Christian and I went last year, and even though we didn't compete in the show, we had a great time (:cough: bikini contest :cough:). While there are more Hondas than you can shake a stick at, there were also some really nicely done cars. There were even a few Miatas! Look for more info in the Events section of the forum.

While the tech day at my place last month was great, we really didn't get too much accomplished due to all the rain. Good news! Kevin Riley (KevinJ) has offered his place to host a tech day on Saturday, May 22nd. While he only has space for one car in the garage, there seems to be enough space in the driveway and street to do some lighter car mods. So grab some hand tools and come on down to Kevin's place in Waldorf, MD for another great day of wrenching with CAR. Watch the Events section of the forum for further details.

With the autocross season in full swing, we have a few upcoming events for this month. All you need is a driver's license and about \$25 to safely test the limits of your car. It's guaranteed to be the most fun you've ever had on four wheels...legally. Check the Motorsports section of the forum for event dates and details.

Lastly, be sure to make it out to Tully's in White Marsh for this month's monthly meeting on the 20th. I hope to see everyone there!

A “Do It Yourself” Event

By JD Veray

I’ve been doing this for awhile now and thought I’d share.

Whenever there aren’t any events scheduled on a good driving day, I’ll printout 5 copies of the CAR flier (so I don’t have to deplete the supply I keep in my glovebox - you all keep copies to hand out to potential members don’t you?) and keep them folded behind my seat for quick retrieval. Then it’s off to my favorite roads!

Whenever I see a Miata parked, I place a flier gently under the driver’s wiper blade. Whenever I encounter another driver on the road, I wait until it is practical (don’t chase them down - we don’t want to scare anyone off!) and pull alongside them. I ask if they’re interested in a local Miata club, and hand them a flier. I’ve yet to have anyone say no, and I’ve had some really nice conversations. After all, it seems we all have at least one good Miata story we love to tell.

(Editor’s note: You can download a copy of the CAR club flier on the club’s home page at <http://www.chesapeakeroadsters.com>)

Monthly Miata Meetings

As many of you know, we’re holding monthly meetings every third Thursday at 7:30pm 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.**

Recent Sightings

Found a Miata in a junkyard or under a tarp in somebody’s back yard? Post it here! JD Veray recently came across this ’92:

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

92 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

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 June newsletter is May 26th. All submissions can be sent to Christian LeHew at info@phpwebhosting.blueroadster.com.

Wanted: Race Space

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), Ben Harper (djarum69 - webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com), or Mike Kline (GoKart - president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com).

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.

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

Kirk Rambow - vicepresident@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com



Past Events & Happenings

Sunday, April 11th – Show and Shine

Ironically, we were supposed to attend a show & shine on a Sunday. And there was neither a show, shine, or any sun to speak of. It rained terribly, and the call was made to postpone this event. We're keeping an eye on Kahunaville's site, and we've decided to reschedule this event for Sunday, May 16th. Check out the Upcoming Events section below or the Events section on the forum for more information.

Thursday, April 15th – Monthly member meeting

As a change of venue, and a chance to bring it closer to our northern members, this month's meeting was held at Tulley's Restaurant near White Marsh. This turned out well, as about 21 people showed, including many new members. And might I add, the meeting went on in traditional CAR Club style! Temperatures for cold beer and well-done steaks were checked with Ben's digital pyrometer, and everything was discussed from aftermarket steering wheels to supercharger installs to upcoming Deal's Gap drive. We can't wait to be back again this month.

Saturday, April 17th – Road Trip to PBC

It was a great top-down day, and Kirk Rambow and Christian LeHew met down at Savage Mills to head over to Performance Buyers Club in Chantilly, VA. The next thing we know, we're surrounded by four more Miatas, including Don (ddpianoman) and his wife in their new-to-them red '91, and Ken (Larken) in his new '99 Emerald Mica. We also had a new Mazdaspeed Miata show up! As it turned out, the others couldn't make it, but they all wanted to come by and say "hi" anyway.

We later picked up Ben Harper somewhere on 66 (he had his stealth mode on), and we met up with Tony Yang and David & Samantha drove up from Richmond. A little later, who pulls up but Ed & Terri Candolerra who drove all the way from New Jersey in their red '90 along with their daughter in her new '93 SE.

There were also about 4 cars from the PACE group, and some from the northern VA area. As usual, Pete and the guys at PBC pulled out all the fun parts, and supplied us with a ton of pizza and some well-needed drinks.

Sunday, April 18th – WDCR/SCCA Championship #1 autocross

In a strong showing by the CAR group, Chris Mahood won CS in his '00 Evolution Orange, and Mike Kline finally pummeled the Corvettes and won SM2, though I hear he's still just being modest about the win. Mark Clark took 7th in CSP, and Ben Harper got 7th in CS which is reluctantly forcing him to sell the Miata and buy a Buick.

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.

Sunday, May 16th 2004 – Kruiise Kahunaville Show & Shine (Take #2)

The last time we tried this event, the weather was so rainy it just wasn't even worth leaving the house. So we didn't. But we've decided to reschedule it, so mark your calendars for Sunday, May 16th, and join us for a trip up to Wilmington, DE for the show. Registration is free, and you get a 20% discount coupon. Simply go to the site (http://www.kahunaville.com/kruiise_club.htm) fill out the form and mail it in. (It looks like you can also complete one the day of the show. Just make sure you have your insurance card handy.)

Plus, the good folks at Kahunaville are also letting us use their water and electricity for cleaning the cars. We just need to provide a hose, power cords, buffers, and anything else we want to use.

Not only that, but there will be TV coverage, so be ready for your "15 minutes of fame".

Keep your fingers crossed for good weather, and this should be a great time. Hope to see you there!

DIRECTIONS:

There will be a group leaving from the McDonald's at the corner of White Marsh Blvd. (Rt. 43) and Honeygo Blvd. in White Marsh, and should be leaving promptly at 10:15am.

Also, since we'll be heading up 95, we'll encounter a couple tolls, so be prepared. We'll collect the toll money before we leave, so that we can get through the tolls in an efficient manner so no one gets left behind. The total tolls going north are \$7, and \$2 for the return trip.

Thursday, May 20th 2004 – Monthly membership meeting

Get your taxes done, and get out to the meeting. We'll even let you pay the bill and use it as a deduction for next year! This month's Third Thursday member meeting is scheduled for 7:30pm at Tully's Restaurant near White Marsh. As usual, bring any ideas you may have for the coming year, your enthusiasm, and any questions or concerns you may have. As usual, just ask the hostess for the Miata club table. And rumor has it that Thursdays is Prime Rib night...

Last I checked, their website was down. For you MapQuesters, the address is 7934 Belair Rd., Nottingham, MD 21236.

DIRECTIONS:

Take 95 to 695 north of Baltimore. Take 695 west towards Towson. Take the first exit, which is #32B towards Bel Air (Route 1 North). Go to the 1st light, and Tully's is in the shopping center on the left. If you get lost, their number is 410.665.9100.

Saturday, May 22nd 2004 – Tech Day

I know what you're thinking - it's about time! And you're right. It's been over a month since our last Tech Day so I know many of you have some projects to work on. And Kevin Riley (KevinJ) was nice enough to offer to host the event at his place in Waldorf. He has a garage, big new air compressor, a welder, and air tools to tackle even the rustiest bolts. We'll start at around 10am and keep on working until Kevin kicks us out (or we get tired, whichever comes first).

The garage is also a woodworking shop, so keep in mind that if you need a level surface to work on, only one car can fit at a time. The driveway is somewhat sloped so only light mods will be possible there.

Kevin's also looking to get a new grill soon so maybe we can christen the grill and wrench on the same day. Be sure to bring some kind of food (chips, cookies, burgers, hotdogs, etc.) and your beverage of choice.

Also, please bring some hand tools if you have them. With so many projects happening at the same time we quickly run out of tools.

Here's the directions to Kevin's place:

FROM THE NORTH:

301 south to Waldorf
Right on 228 west, Berry Rd (Festival shopping center on right)
At the fourth light Left on Middletown Rd.
At the first light left on McDaniel Rd.
Second left on to Hallmark Ln
Right at the T onto Ashford Ln
Next right on to Knollwood Ct.
We are at the Cul-De-Sac, Gray house red shutters.

FROM THE SOUTH:

Take the DC Beltway to the Wilson Bridge.
Take the first exit in MD and get on Rt 210 south, Indian Head Highway.
Go about 14 miles.
Take the LEFT exit onto 228 east, Berry Rd.
At the fourth light take right onto Middletown RD.
At the first light go left on McDaniel Rd.
Second left on to Hallmark Ln
Right at the T onto Ashford Ln

Next right on to Knollwood Ct.
We are at the Cul-De-Sac, Gray house red shutters.

Saturday & Sunday – May 29-30 – SCCA National Tour

Look for more details on the CAR club forum, or just come out to FedEx Field and cheer on your fellow club members as they take on national-level autocross champions at FedEx Field! 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
or Ben Harper (djarum69) - webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com).

Saturday, June 5th 2004 – Scenic Drive – Eldersburg, MD

What goes better in summer than some great barbeque, some tasty snowballs, and a top-down drive through the country? That's right, doing it with the CAR Miata club.

It's June, and that means that it's time once again for the annual Barbeque/Snowball run in Eldersburg. Of course, if you went last year, you missed out on barbeque. But we're keeping our fingers crossed for this year.

So mark your calendars for Saturday, June 5th when we meet at Smokey's BBQ in Eldersburg, MD at 11:30am for some great Carolina-style BBQ, then head off for a slow-paced scenic drive on some nice roads through Howard and Carroll counties, and ending the ride at The Original Hawaiian Island Snoball Stand for some of the best snoballs (and other dessert treats) that you've had since, well, last year's trip!

What are you waiting for? Cancel plans. Pretend your sick. Do whatever you have to do to make sure your plans include coming on the BBQ/Snoball run on June 5th!

Christian will be leading a group from Timonium through Hunt Valley to Smokey's BBQ if any of you northerners want to have a pre-lunch drive. We'll be meeting at 10:15am (for a 10:30 departure) in the parking lot at Baja Fresh on the corner of Timonium Road and York Road in Timonium.

Otherwise, you can just meet us at the restaurant:

DIRECTIONS TO SMOKEY'S BBQ:

From I-70:

Take the exit for Route 32 North. Follow 32 for about 5 miles (watch out for police in Sykesville) to Liberty Road (Route 32). Make a right onto Liberty Road (32 East) and go through about 5 lights. At the 5th light, you'll see a Food Lion and Dairy Queen on your left. Make a left into this shopping center, turn right at the Food Lion, and you'll see Smokey's BBQ in the smaller shopping center across the parking lot.

From points North and East

There's a few ways you can go via Owings Mills, but the easiest is just to take 695 to Liberty Road (Route 32 West). Stay on 32 for about 8 miles (it'll turn from an urban area to very rural), go through the light at Ward's Chapel Road, cross over Liberty Reservoir, go through another light, cross over the reservoir again, and go up the hill. The road will turn into 4 lanes, and you'll see the Dairy Queen and Food Lion on your right just before a traffic light. Turn into this shopping center, turn right at the Food Lion, and you'll see Smokey's BBQ in the smaller shopping center across the parking lot.

Sunday, June 13th 2004 – WDCR/SCCA Championship #3 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
or Ben Harper (djarum69) - webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com).

Thursday, June 17th 2004 – Monthly membership meeting

Monthly member meeting, 7:30 as usual. Place TBD. Look for more info in next month's newsletter or in the Events section of the CAR forum.

Sunday, June 27th 2004 – MWCSCC Autocross at Rosecroft Raceway

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
or Ben Harper (djarum69) - webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com).

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- 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!

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- Exclusive CAR member discounts on all parts and service