



The CAR Enthusiast

November 2004

The President's Post

By Mike Kline

Even though the daylight is dwindling, the CAR club is just getting fired up. So set the clocks back and get ready for another action packed month with the CAR club!

This month's Tech Day will be held at my place in Crownsville. I have a large one car garage and plenty of parking for about 200 Miatas, no kidding! Bring along that car mod you've been meaning to do. There will be plenty of expert hands on board for even the toughest jobs. We'll save the heated garage for the big projects and hanging out while warming up. And when you're fed up with working on the car you can take your anger out on spuds. My pneumatic potato cannon can launch potatoes over 300 yards! We're also incorporating a mystery contest??? So bring your favorite beverage, your imagination, and some box cutters to my place on the sixth. Look for details in the event section of the forum.

Every club member in good standing is entitled to vote in the elections as well as run for office. The job doesn't pay very much, just the cost of one year's renewal fee - but that's not the point. Being a CAR officer gives you the chance to better the club and make new friends while you're at it. The elected positions will be for President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. None of the positions are very difficult and they only take a couple of hours out of the month to do. So if you think you or someone else in the club would make a good candidate now's your chance to help out the club. Keep an eye on the forum for the "Nominations" thread to pop up or drop me an email with your nominee (president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com).

Monthly meeting

This month's meeting will be a back up north. We're heading back to Tully's Restaurant near White Marsh. The meeting will begin at the usual 7:00 time.

So bring any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. Check the events section of the forum for details and updates. See ya there!

Democracy in action

Not only is it a Presidential election year on the national level, but it's also time once again for the terms of the current CAR club officers to come to an end. However, since this club is an equal opportunity democracy, if you're a member in good standing and you'd like to run for an officer position, or would like to nominate someone, then we urge you to consider it. It's a small commitment, and a really great opportunity to not only meet other Miata enthusiasts, but to help make the club that much better.

For your reference, below is a list of the officer positions and their functions. If you have any specific questions, please feel free to contact any of the current officers listed below.

Mike Kline, President
president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com

Kirk Rambow, Vice President
vicepresident@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com

Jay DeLeyos, Treasurer
treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com

J.D. Veray, Secretary
secretary@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com

OFFICER DUTIES:

1. The President shall preside at all Executive Board meetings, shall enforce these bylaws, shall sign and enforce contracts, shall sign checks (co-signed with Treasurer), shall appoint committees, shall assign duties to members, shall vote in the event of a tie and shall be responsible for carrying out the decisions of the membership. Upon completion of term of office, the Past President shall remain a member of the Executive Board for one year.

2. The Vice President shall preside and perform all duties of the President in his/her absence, shall have check-signing authority in the absence of the President and must co-sign all contracts. In the event of an absence of any elected officer, the Vice President assumes the duties of that officer until the absent officer resumes their duties or until a new officer is appointed for that office and confirmed by the Executive Board.

3. The Secretary shall keep minutes of the General Membership and Executive Board meetings, shall keep records of the membership, shall maintain a record of attendance for all meetings, shall be responsible for the preparation and mailing of all meeting notices and other club literature, shall furnish each member with a copy of these bylaws and their amendments as they occur, and shall maintain a file of minutes and records of past years. At the last meeting of his or her term, shall turn over to the new Secretary all minutes and records for club files.

4. The Treasurer shall issue and sign checks. Pay approved bills, collect all dues and other monies from any and all sources and issue receipts, shall keep books of accounts and make a financial report at all club meetings, shall further make an annual financial report showing all income and disbursements at the

last meeting of his or her term. At the last meeting of his or her term, shall turn over the records of the past year for the club files.

Positions such as **NEWSLETTER EDITOR** and **EVENTS COORDINATOR** are appointed positions, so if you think you'd be interested in either one of those, then please talk to any one of the officers.

Elections will be held at the Annual Membership Meeting in December, so please feel free to drop any of us a line or ask questions, and please consider running for office.

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!

Here are the newest members as of 10/15/04:

Joshua Henly
Bob McCarthy
Suzanne Lawrence
Diane Tuckman
Darrel Wheeler

Membership Renewals

Just a reminder from the Membership Committee that membership renewals are coming up for some club members, so be sure to renew today so there's no lapse in your CAR Membership. Dues are still just \$25, and can be paid via cash, check or even Paypal. Reminder e-mails have gone out, but if you have any questions about your membership, feel free to drop a line to JD Veray at secretary@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com or Jay DeLeyos at treasurer@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com and they'll be happy to help you.

Recent Sightings

Found a Miata in a junkyard or under a tarp in somebody's back yard? Post it here! We'll even take referrals on entire cars. Just make sure you include the pertinent information (location, phone numbers, price, etc.), and send it to the newsletter staff at info@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com.

Monthly Miata Meetings

As many of you know, we're holding monthly meetings every third Thursday at 7:00 p.m. 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>.

It's not too late for a plate!

If the Maryland MVA can give us a straight answer on what we need to finalize this process, we should be in the very final stages of taking orders for and getting the new plates.

And 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. Pricing should be around \$25 per set, and 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



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

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 December newsletter is November 26th. All submissions can be sent to Christina Potter at info@phpwebhosting.blueroadster.com.

Past Events & Happenings

Monthly Meeting

This month's meeting was held back at an old favorite, Rocky Run restaurant in Columbia. As usual, the beer was flowing, the food was great, the conversation was lively and so was the hot sauce. If someone offers you a hot sauce called "Dave's Insanity Sauce" or "You're Not Man Enough For This Hot Sauce", kindly decline the offer. Both of these made it down the table, and a good number of us are just now starting to taste food once again. As usual, a great time was had by all, and it was especially great to see a lot of our new members.

Winery Run

October 17th saw the return of the Winery Run through Carroll and Frederick counties. It was a bit windy, but eight cars came out for a day of inbibing at Linganore Winery in Mt. Airy. The roads were clear, the leaves were out in full color, and the wine was excellent this year (especially once we found a heavy pourer...). We even got a winery tour from the wine maker himself, which proved to be entertaining and informational. And of course, lunch at E.W. Beck's in Sykesville was as delicious and filling as ever.

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.

Saturday, November 6th 2004 – Mystery Event

So what's going on? You'll just have to find out for yourself. There's a good possibility it'll be a light (and cold) tech day. But there's an even better possibility it'll be something you won't expect. But don't worry, it'll be fun and won't even get you in trouble with the wife.

Either way, make sure you mark down Saturday, November 6th for an event at Mike Kline's place in Crownsville, and be sure to be there around 10am with your Miata.

As usual, feel free to bring any food, drinks, or fun motorized vehicles to share with the group. Directions to Mike's are below. His house is pretty easy to get to, just be careful about his driveway where it meets the road. You'll probably want to take it at a pretty good angle. The house is green, and has a red garage behind it. When you pull up the driveway, you can park your car on the left side on the grass. For you MapQuesters, his address is 1218 Generals Highway, Crownsville MD 21032.

Directions from 695:

- Take 97 south toward Annapolis (12 miles)
- Take MD-178 (Generals Hwy), exit #5, toward CROWNSVILLE
- After getting on the exit ramp my house is the first one on the right (about 1/2 - 3/4 mi). The driveway before the black mailbox.
- If you make it to the 1st traffic signal (Herald Harbor rd.) you went too far.

Directions from 495:

- Take 50 east toward Annapolis (10 miles)
- Take 3 north, exit #13, toward Baltimore / Crofton (9 miles)
- Take 97 south exit toward Annapolis (1 mile)
- Stay in the far right hand lane and take the 1st exit (MD-178 - Generals Hwy), exit #5, toward CROWNSVILLE
- After getting on the exit ramp my house is the first one on the right (about 1/2 - 3/4 mi). The driveway before the black mailbox.
- If you make it to the 1st traffic signal (Herald Harbor Rd.) you went too far.

Directions from the East (Annapolis Mall):

- Take West St. west toward the Annapolis Mall
- In front of the mall West St. turns into Generals Hwy.
- Stay straight on Generals Hwy. (178) for 5 miles
- My house is just past the Herold Harbor Rd. traffic light on the left (across from the Shell station)

Directions from the West (Columbia):

- Take 32 east (10-12 miles)
- When 32 east turns into 97 south, take the 1st exit (MD-178 - Generals Hwy), exit #5, toward CROWNSVILLE
- After getting on the exit ramp my house is the first one on the right (about 1/2 - 3/4 mi). The driveway before the black mailbox.
- If you make it to the 1st traffic signal (Herald Harbor Rd.) you went too far.

Thursday, November 18th 2004 – Monthly membership meeting

Monthly member meeting, 7:00 as usual. This month, we're heading back up north to 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 Thursday 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.

Road Rally Nov/Dec

We're still working on a date, but with winter on the way, the fun driving days will soon be coming to an end. So what better way to enjoy a day of driving than with an old-fashioned scavenger hunt/road rally. Look for more details in next month's newsletter and on the forums.

Holiday Party, Dec 18

If you missed last year's Holiday Party, then you missed one heck of a good time. And this year should be no different! Join us on Saturday, December 18th for our annual CAR Club Holiday Party. Members and a guest are welcome to attend, and this year's event will be held at Mike Kline's house in Crownsville. We'll also be inducting the new club officers that night. If you'd like to attend, please RSVP to Mike at president@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com so we'll know how many to expect.

Dyno Day

You've probably seen it on the forums, but we're currently in the process of setting up a dyno day at Extreme Motorsports in Jessup. Miatas will take priority, but the more participants we get, the cheaper the price. The date is still pending, but if you're interested in tuning, testing and measuring your car's power, then be sure to drop a line to Kirk Rambow at vicepresident@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com and let him know.

GoKart Day – Jan 2005

Last year's event got snowed out, but we're trying to get another trip together to head to Allsports Grand Prix for some indoor gokart racing. Look for more info online and in a future issue of the newsletter.

Ski Trip – Feb 2005

One idea that's been suggested is for a ski trip to a neighboring ski resort, sans Miatas of course. Details are still being worked out, but if you're interested, drop a line to Kirk Rambow at vicepresident@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com and let him know.

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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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