



The CAR Enthusiast

September 2004

The President's Post

By Mike Kline

Don't look now, but it's almost that time of the year again.

That's right, time to start thinking about nominations for next year's club officers!

Every club member in good standing is entitled to vote in the elections as well as run for office. 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. The elected positions will be for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and an appointed position for Newsletter Editor. Keep an eye on the forum for the "Nominations" thread to pop up or drop me an e-mail with your nominee.

Be sure to make it to this month's meeting at an old favorite, Rocky Run restaurant in Columbia. They have great food and every hot sauce known to man. Things will get started at 7pm and the after-meeting festivities will continue in the bar section. Check the Events section of the newsletter and forum for details and directions. Hope to see everyone there!

This month's Tech Day will be held at Jay DeLeyos' house in Ft. Washington. Jay has air tools and plenty of parking on flat ground for working on the car. So bring your car parts and some food or beverages and prepare to have an awesome day of wrenching on the Miata and talking cars. Check the Event section of the newsletter and forum for more information and directions. This one's gonna be big!

With autocrosses going on almost every weekend now, there's no excuse to miss them. All you need is a driver's license and \$25 to legally test the limits of your car. Check the Motorsports section of the forum for all the latest info. Stop talking about it and try it, you'll be hooked!

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!

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 7:00pm 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>.

It's not too late for a plate!

We're in the final stages of cutting through the Maryland MVA's red tape, and we should be getting the new plates soon.

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

Past Events & Happenings

Saturday, August 7th – Tech Day

Twenty-two cars, including a vintage Sunbeam Tiger, a Mazda3, and an RX8. And that's just when I quit counting! This month's tech day was at Bill Carlson's (wwc) in Crofton. The weather was great, the cars were great, and there were even several new members who came out. Thanks again to Bill (and the Monolith) for sharing the garage and wonderful hospitality.

Thursday, August 19th – Monthly member meeting

This month's meeting was once again at our old favorite, *The Greene Turtle* in Laurel. And the parking lot and the restaurant were mobbed with Miatae. Pretty soon, they'll probably just make us sit outside! Next month's meeting is back at Rocky Run in Columbia, so mark you calendars and come spend a fun night out with the CAR group!

Saturday, August 28th – Scenic Drive

This was really supposed to run on the 21st, but with storm clouds looming, the date was pushed back. This of course is always a crap shoot, but it turned out for the best. Eleven Miatas turned out for a scenic drive up through Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware on a sun-filled Saturday. Other than a slight mis-direction, the drive went wonderfully. And the food and beer at the Brandywine Brewing Company was as tasty as ever.

Upcoming Events

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

Sunday, September 5th 2004 – WDCR/SCCA Championship #6 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, September 16th 2004 – Monthly membership meeting

Monthly member meeting, 7:00 as usual. This month, we're heading back up to Rocky Run restaurant just off I-95 in Columbia. 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.

It's located near the intersection of Dobbin Road and Rt. 175 (Little Patuxent Parkway) and just off 95. Follow 95 to the exit for Rt. 175 towards Columbia. Go about three lights, and make a left onto Dobbin Road. Make a right at

the first light (you'll see the Rocky Run and a Mr. Tire on your right), and follow the driveway back to the sharp right turn, and turn right into the parking lot.

Saturday, September 18th 2004 – Tech Day

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 18th for another of CAR's famous tech days! This month, it'll be at the home of Jay DeLeyos' just off the Potomac in Fort Washington. He has a garage with air tools and plenty of parking. And hey, if you're looking for spare parts, perhaps you can make him an offer on the coffee table in his living room! Jay will be having some Filipino dishes available, but as usual, feel free to bring along your favorite food and beverages.

There are better directions in the Events section of the forum, but if you'd like to MapQuest it, here's Jay's address:

916 JESSICA DRIVE
FORT WASHINGTON, MD 20744
301-839-5663

Sunday, September 26th 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
or Ben Harper (djarum69) - webmaster@blueroadster.phpwebhosting.com).

Sunday, October 3rd 2004 – WDCR/SCCA Championship #7 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).

Saturday, October 9th – Tech Day

It may be the last one of the season (unless anyone wants to volunteer their heated garage), and the Albert's have graciously once again opened up their home and garage door to the CAR club. Tech days at Brad & Kristy's are always a club favorite, so grab your tools, bring some grub, and head over to Brad's for CAR's usual brand of wrenching, eating, and general shenanigans.

DIRECTIONS TO BRAD'S (FROM THE NORTH):

RT. 3 South through Crofton

Make a right on Rt. 450

Follow 450 through Bowie, Past HS. etc..

Cross Rt. 197 then your next light is Church Road.

Make a left onto Church Road (look for the Shell station)

Church road will wind through some S turns then make a hard right.

Don't get to excited about the hard right because right at the apex of it you will need to make a left on to Old Stage Road!

Make your second Right on to pleasant View Drive. Follow that to Heatherstone.

We're at the corner of Heatherstone and Pleasant View drive.

DIRECTIONS TO BRAD'S (FROM THE SOUTH)

RT. 3 North through Crofton

Make a left on Rt. 450

Follow 450 through Bowie, Past HS. etc..

Cross Rt. 197 then your next light is Church Road.

Make a left onto Church Road (look for the Shell station)

Church road will wind through some S turns then make a hard right.

Don't get to excited about the hard right because right at the apex of it you will need to make a left on to Old Stage Road!

Make you second Right on to pleasant View Drive. Follow that to Heatherstone.

We're at the corner of Heatherstone and Pleasant View drive.

**Anybody coming via 50 just get off at 197, take that to 450, make a left and follow same as above.

Sunday, October 10th 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)

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

Sunday, October 17th 2004 – Scenic Drive/Winery Tour

Due to the overwhelmingly popular demand, Christian will once again be leading a group on a drive through Carroll and Frederick Counties to Linganore Winery in Mt. Airy. Afterwards, we'll be stopping for lunch at E.W. Beck's Pub in Sykesville, also by popular demand.

So join us for a leisurely Sunday drive via the scenic route through the fall colors (keep your fingers crossed) to the Linganore Winery in Mt. Airy. The drive is quite scenic, and the winery itself is a perfect compliment. We'll be able to tour the winery and see the manufacturing process, and you can do a tasting as well. We'll be meeting at the Park & Ride at Rt. 32 and Rt. 70 in Sykesville for a 10am departure. Afterwards, we'll grab some lunch at E.W. Beck's Pub in Sykesville. **Please RSVP to Christian no later than October 14 if you plan to attend.**

Thursday, October 21st 2004 – Monthly membership meeting

Monthly member meeting, 7:00 as usual. This month, we're heading back up to Rocky Run restaurant just off I-95 in Columbia. 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.

It's located near the intersection of Dobbin Road and Rt. 175 (Little Patuxent Parkway) and just off 95. Follow 95 to the exit for Rt. 175 towards Columbia. Go about three lights, and make a left onto Dobbin Road. Make a right at the first light (you'll see the Rocky Run and a Mr. Tire on your right), and follow the driveway back to the sharp right turn, and turn right into the parking lot.

Sunday, October 24th 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)

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

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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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866-260-6028

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