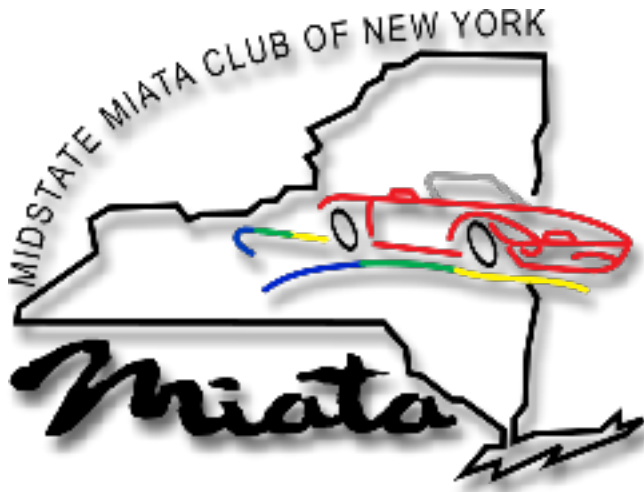




President's Letter

This month's President's letter wishes to address 3 things:

1. I'd like to express my gratitude, along with feedback from many members, for the hard work and attention to detail many members have invested in being sure the rest of us have had a great variety of events (and ice cream choices) this driving season. We are very lucky to have such amazing volunteer members!!! Thanks to you all from all the rest of us!
2. A quick thank you to the team that pulled together an End of Year Wrap Up party that was a big hit on Saturday. Forty-eight members enjoyed good food, ten delicious pies, and scrumptious chili along with LOTS of snacks, salads, and other food and drinks. There were table games and lots of laughter to go along with the feast, as well as, continuing (and new) friendship discussions to close the season. Thank you to Bev Wike (and her daughter Kelly), Lisa and Frank Cantone, Gail Wagner, Jay Cartini, Del Austin, Barb Hunsinger, and Elisha Kasinskas. If I forgot anyone...Senior moment, apologies.
3. This is an important message. 2026 is an election year for the club officers. Below you will find descriptions of the nomination/election process. Please think about members of the club who might fit each of the positions.

Karen McKissock, 585-820-6010, email: kmckiss1948@gmail.com

Election of Officers for the Midstate Miata Club of New York

The Midstate Miata Club of New York Officers will hold their respective positions from spring 2026 until spring 2028. Officers include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The term for elected officers is two years, elections taking place in even years, and no term limits. You may read the descriptions of officers and their duties in the bylaws, Article VII, on the Club website, https://www.midstatemiata.net/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/mmc_bylaws_v1.4.1.pdf.

Nominations for Club officers will open on **November 1, 2025** for all members who are in good standing and have joined our Club on or before August 1, 2025. Nominations will remain open until **January 30, 2026**. To nominate officers, select this link, <https://forms.gle/57ecNrhjN7EMv9718>, to use the easy, online nomination form. Alternatively, print the nomination form below and mail it to *Midstate Miata Club of New York, % Karen McKissock, Club President, 121 Cranbrook Terrace, Webster, New York 14580*. Lastly, you may email Karen, kmckiss1948@gmail.com, with your nominees. Multiple nominations per office are accepted.

Voting for officers will open on **February 1, 2026** and end on **February 28, 2026**. Details about the election process will be provided via an email in late January 2026.

Nominations - 2026

		CURRENT OFFICER
Offices Nominated		
PRESIDENT NAME OF CANDIDATE		Karen McKissock*
VICE PRESIDENT NAME OF CANDIDATE		Jay Cartini
SECRETARY NAME OF CANDIDATE		Miriam White
TREASURER NAME OF CANDIDATE		Beverly Wike*
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karen McKissock at 585-820-6010		
* These candidates will not be running for office in the 2026 elections.		
<u>Please return your nominations to the address below by Jan. 30st, 2026</u>		
Midstate Miata Club of NY, Inc.		
c/o Karen McKissock		
121 Cranbrook Terrace Webster NY 14580		
<i>Both pilot and co-pilot may nominate candidates</i>		

Welcome New & Returning Members

Welcome to the Mid-state Miata Club of New York!

We have many events planned each year, some with meals and ice cream. If you recently joined the Club, please keep your orange sticker on your ID badge for 2025, so the old hands can say, “Hi, and Welcome to the Club!”

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>COLOR</u>
Bonnie Linden	Rochester	1999	Emerald Green Mica
Dave Hathaway & Rita Widner	Syracuse	2025	Soul Red Crystal Metallic

If you are considering joining our Club, we have several places where you can learn about what we do. We have a [website](#), [Facebook page](#), and [YouTube channel](#). When ready, you should fill out page two of the [Membership Brochure](#).

NOTE: To find the full detailed schedule of events for 2025 you can go to our website:

<https://www.midstatemiata.net/calendars.html>

From Bill Lowe, YouTube Coordinator

Thanks to all who have sent video and pictures of past events for possible use in the club videos I produce for YouTube.

Please remember that we are talking mostly about video here. Virtually all of us have a phone that has a camera that will take not only still pictures, but also excellent quality video. And I much prefer video over still pictures that really amount to nothing more than a slide show.

When involved in an event and shooting video and pictures try to think of what you are doing as a recording of that event as it unfolds. That means lots of shots of the stuff you are seeing, the cars on the road, and to a lesser extent people involved. A whole bunch of group shots minus any context on why all those folks are there really doesn't tell the story.

Video clips should be at least 10-seconds long; the longer the better. The more material you provide the easier it is for me to edit it into a completed YouTube product. Also, as you shoot the video talk about what you are shooting. I probably won't use your narration, but it helps me identify that video clip and how it fits into the complete story I'm trying to tell in the finished video.

You can see all our club videos at:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=midstate+miata+club

On the page that opens, click on “Videos” between the words “Shorts” and “Unwatched” to the left above the picture for the first video. This way YouTube will show you only club video. All of you are encouraged to shoot lots of video and pictures of every club outing you attend. Upload your content, along with a description of the event, to this Internet address:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/yloCBAwqpD9s8IU32qjD>

I can then your material to edit a video about the event as my time permits and then post it to our YouTube channel. If you need to reach me, my email address is: blowe0542@gmail.com

Past Events

Sunday, September 14 - Lafayette Apple Fritter Crawl

Event Coordinators - Lee Maddy & Miriam White, Syracuse Chapter



The annual Apple Fritter Crawl is the easiest and fastest club event. This year was no different. Beautiful weather and warmth greeted us at the Byrne Dairy in Lafayette. Ballots were distributed so we could vote for the best apple fritters this year.



With tops down and growling stomachs we drove on Route 20 to our first stop, Deer Run Orchards. The family that owns this orchard reviews the MMC calendar to

know when we are coming. We were greeted with, “welcome back!”, and hot fresh apple fritters were made to order. These fritters were a full slice of apple with a thin crispy coating.



After a group photo, we hopped back in our cars and drove the short distance to O'Neill's Orchard. These fritters were darker in color with a thicker coating.



We then scurried across the road to our cars parked on the side of the road and zoomed up the hill to Navarino Orchards. This orchard was busy, but we were able to claim a new grassy row so all cars could park together. These fritters

were enjoyed at picnic tables in the sun while other visitors admired our cars.

Afterward we turned left back onto Route 20 down the hill to Beak and Skiff Orchards. Parking was easier than expected and quick. We walked into the area with buildings offering fritters, food, apple related items and, also, liquid refreshment from the distillery. Tables were quickly selected. Many



club members ordered food, selected some Bloody Marys or hard ciders and reflected on the day in the sunshine.

While this event may be the shortest in duration, it is always a great way to enjoy our club member friends. The votes were tabulated and the unanimous winner

was: Deer Run Orchards. We tagged the orchard on our Facebook page and they were excited with the news.



Sunday September 28 - Annual Bill Hodge Memorial Road Rally

Event Coordinators - Lee Maddy & Miriam White, Syracuse Chapter

This year was the 22nd annual Bill Hodge Memorial Road Rally. As last year's winners, we had the great honor of planning and running this year's rally. Bill was one of our founding club members, and he took great pride in making road rallies for us all to enjoy, so we commemorate him by carrying on the tradition in his name. We spent a lot of time planning the event, running and rerunning to find great roads, clues, and photos. Everyone had a great time.



The weather was absolutely fantastic for the 22nd Annual Bill Hodge

Memorial Road Rally. It was a bright and sunny day. Ten cars met up at the LaFayette Byrne Dairy gas station at 11:00 am to talk, and then we gathered for a club photo. At 11:30 am, we had our driver's meeting, where instructions were given. Then cars queued up, received their rally packet, and departed every 4 minutes to start the fun. As a special surprise Elisha Kasinskas and Al MacWilliams from Rochester teamed up and joined us to try their hand at the event.



Ten teams traveled up and down hills through the apple country of Lafayette, searching for answers to clues and trying to identify the photos that were in their rally packet. Once everyone arrived at the mystery final location (Baliwick Market and Café) in Elbridge, a great deal of rejoicing was had.



The competition was fierce, and the scores were very close. I had to triple check the results, because there was a tie for first between the team of Jay Cartini & Kate Bailey, and the team of Ellen and Doug Havens. From the look on Doug's face, he



thought they had it in the bag, but in the end, Jay and Kate answered more of the bonus questions to win the glorious prizes. Notice in the photo how happy both Jay and Kate are, and how excited they are to get to plan next year's rally.

See table for scores:

Place	Team Members	# Questions Answered	# Photos	Total Score	Tiebreaker Points (Sign Count)
1	Jay Cartini & Kate Bailey	30	8	38	6
2	Ellen & Doug Havens	31	7	38	4
3	Ray & Sue Mosher	30	7	37	
4	Norm & Karen Abbott	29	7	36	
5	Dale & Kathy Nagle	29	7	36	
6	Tyler Wainwright & Chris	29	5	34	
7	Elisha Kasinskas & Al MacWilliams	28	5	33	
8	Colleen Welch & Marty Ledger	29	4	33	
9	Kevin Smith and Kathy Lester	27	6	33	
10	Nancy & Bill Lowe	25	3	28	

Friday, October 3 - POP UP EVENT - Lunch and Ice Cream

Event Coordinators - Chet Wilk and Debbie Bogan, Syracuse Chapter

On the road again... Expect the unexpected.

There was a bit of a nip in the air October 3, but the sun shone brightly. Smile weather. Chet and Debbie led the way, while Kevin and Cathy kept an eye on us in the rear car. Seven Miata cars

headed out from Meachem Field in Syracuse to meet up with three other Miata cars at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge in Seneca Falls. Expect the unexpected! Due to the government shut down, Montezuma was closed. Quick thinking led us to a nearby Circle K for a pit stop. Then it was onward to Route 89 to go to Cayuga Shoreline Restaurant on Cayuga Lake.

Then more of the unexpected happened. We got stuck behind a tractor pulling a truck, traveling 20 mph for 23 miles.



We took the opportunity to view the pretty lakeside scenery as we slowly meandered down the road. We arrived at our destination and laughed. We were hungry. The manager of Cayuga Shoreline was waiting for us and had 2 tables set up on their outside porch, which offered a lovely view of the lake. We had a delicious lunch, good service, and enjoyed some great conversations. We welcomed new members Wayne and Carol Simmons to their first Miata event. We hope they come back for another road trip.

After lunch, some of us followed Tony and Joette to Mr. Pudder's in Skaneateles for delicious ice cream. We relaxed on their covered porch and talked about our eventful day.



All in all, what appeared ominous turned out to be a lovely trip in the company of wonderful Miata friends. We'll be on the road again soon. And so be it, if the unexpected happens again. We have fond memories of this Miata road trip.

Saturday, October 5 - POP UP EVENT - Harpursville, NY to Sidney, NY Run

Event Coordinator - Del Austin, Binghamton Chapter

Eight top down Binghamton shiny Miatas, including Ken House and Carol Nightengale's brand new 2025 35th Miata Anniversary Edition; it is something to see. The color is gorgeous red; Mazda Miata has really outdone themselves.



The group of eight Miatas met in Sanitaria Springs, departing onto NY Rt 7 North East passing the little village of Harpursville and rolling into the little village of Nineveh, with its small white church. We continued driving alongside the

Susquehanna River with the beautiful colors on the mountains on both sides of us. The road had some nice curves as we entered the village of Afton. We continued on our route east to Bainbridge, NY, home of one of the longest canoeing regattas in the East. Just up the road, was our destination of Sidney, NY. Several named railroads have passed through the center of this one big railroad town.



Our destination was just ahead, the Track Side Restaurant. They were all setup for our group. The next hour and a half was talking of Miatas, of course, friends, and trips we have taken this year. I got to meet a newer member from Binghamton, Ted Blodgett. I look forward to having him join us on the run that will be planned for next year.



After a very nice lunch, the group departed south, and east, and west back home. It has been a great pleasure for Virginia and I to have taken the Binghamton area members on some nice survey Miata runs. Hope we are here to do it all over again in 2026. ZOOM, ZOOM to you all. Happy Holidays! Credit for these pictures goes to Nancy Wildomer and to Bob Gingell for the other summer runs. Thank you both!

Wednesday, October 8 - Drive with the Niagara Club

Event Coordinator - Al MacWilliams, Rochester Chapter

Thirteen club members in eight Miatas met in Avon for the ride to Yorkshire to meet up with the Niagara Miata Club. From there we had 25 Miatas, and the Niagara Club's pet Corvette, caravan to a stop at the Cuba Cheese Store. Then on to lunch at Spragues in Portville.



Beautiful weather allowed top down cruising as the MMC group returned to Perry for ice cream at the Charcoal Corral. Our route had covered 120 miles on some fun roads for a great ride on a beautiful fall day!

Sunday, October 12 - Pop-Up Event – Drive With Tumbling Wheels Car Club

Event Coordinators - Gail Wagner & Al Lesker, Ithaca Chapter

On Sunday, October 12, seven Miatas from the Ithaca, Rochester, Binghamton, and Syracuse chapters gathered in Watkins Glen to meet up with the Tumbling Wheels Car Club of Central NY.

The Tumbling Wheels Club consisted of many 1960's hot Chevys, Camaros, and OTM's (Other Than Miatas). Gail Wagner, Miata Club Ithaca Chapter Rep and Al Lesker, Ithaca Chapter member and a friend of the Tumbling Wheels group, co-hosted the event.



In all, we caravanned twenty cars! from Watkins west to Keuka Lake with a lunch stop for many of us at Seneca Market, Morgan's Meat Market and Keuka Restaurant in Penn Yan.

It was an interesting day and we met some friendly OTM folks, had a beautiful top-down drive around west Keuka Lake and enjoyed one of our last fairly warm drives.

Saturday, October 18 - Last Call '25

Event Coordinators - Merrilee & Al MacWilliam, Rochester Chapter

Miatas from the Ithaca, Rochester, and Syracuse Chapters met in Bloomfield to participate in the "Last Call 25" event. The fifteen Miatas ran in two groups through hills and valleys with trees in fall colors, until stopping for lunch together in Cohocton.



With our stomachs full, the twenty-four Club members, and one guest, boarded our faithful mounts for a ride through more open country, with great vistas, in one fifteen car long caravan. We stopped in the village square in Bloomfield for a group picture before a short drive to Shark's ice cream to end our 110 mile trip. It was a great ride!



Here is a link to more pictures: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12lqvycQoKW09KYknQazV5xIY-e6YzcXH>

[12lqvycQoKW09KYknQazV5xIY-e6YzcXH](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12lqvycQoKW09KYknQazV5xIY-e6YzcXH)

Saturday, October 25 - Year End Wrap Up Party

Event Coordinators - The Leadership Team

Season Wrap Party is a Success!

We held a new event this year - a Year End Wrap Up party. It was a success! Feedback about the venue and the casual atmosphere was





positive. There was plenty of time to mingle, play games and graze.

Members brought a dish to pass and participated in chili and pie contests. We had three chilis and a soup in the chili contest and ten pies! Mark Kaplan was voted the best chili winner and Elisha Kasinskas was the best pie contest winner.

Forty-five members attended, with ten driving their Miatas to the American Legion in Skaneateles where we held the event. See the [event video](#) on our YouTube channel.



Technical Tips



Wench With A Wrench

Gail Wagner

WINTER STORAGE TIPS

Hi, Miata Folks,

As I do each fall, it's apropos to print this column again for the Club newbies and as a refresher to us "oldies" as

we tuck our Miata's away for their long winter's storage nap. Below are some tried-and-true pointers I have found invaluable to keep our Miata's in good condition over the long, cold, NY winter and ready for spring reawakening. Warning: Most of you know I am obsessive-compulsive about Miata maintenance.

- Optional: Change the oil and filter BEFORE storage to remove acids and other waste products that can corrode your motor if you changed it in the spring. Be sure to use a good quality oil filter (I use Mobil One) with an anti-drain-back valve in it. Use good quality motor oil too. I now use Mobil One 100% synthetic motor oil. It's your choice to use 100% synthetic oil or real petroleum-based oil but do not mix both together. Use one or the other. (In my opinion as well as others, I think the 50/50 blend synthetic on the market is a waste of money.) (Note: If you wish to switch from "dinosaur" petroleum oil to 100% synthetic oil, just be sure to drain ALL old oil first, then add the 100% synthetic.)
- Wash, wax and thoroughly clean the interior of your car. This includes washing underneath with a hose, especially the wheel wells, to remove dirt. (Automatic car washes are not recommended.) Vacuum inside thoroughly to remove any food crumbs that entice small creatures to picnic on leftover Doritos. Critters can be unbelievably destructive, not to mention their indiscriminate excretory habits. [?] Consider taking your removable carpets indoors for the winter to prevent them becoming musty or mildew-laden. Place a couple of stinky scented dryer sheets

inside the cabin to discourage critters. Important: PLEASE DO NOT use mothballs; nasty naphthalene fumes are toxic to breathe.

- Check all fluid levels before storage, especially the coolant/antifreeze level. Buy a little hydrometer at an auto parts store and check the freeze point or have it checked and coolant flushed/placed, if necessary, before winter. Old coolants can corrode the engine, cooling system and heater core.
- Fill the gas tank completely to prevent condensation that may contaminate your gasoline and corrode the fuel system. Some, including me, suggest ethanol-free gas. IMPORTANT: add a gasoline stabilizer additive such as “Sta-bil” brand and run the engine to mix it in to prevent the gasoline from becoming “gummy” to prevent clogging injectors from sitting over time.
- Check your tire pressure. Some suggest a slight tire over-inflation may prevent flat spots on your tires if you’re not putting the vehicle up on jack stands. I do not store on jack stands. (More on jack stands below.)
- Consider placing a sheet of heavy plastic polyethylene sheeting or a large piece of cardboard under the entire vehicle to prevent vapor buildup, plus it’s easy to spot any fluid leaks (I hope not!).
- Remove the battery to a warm, dry place (and charge once a month, if possible) OR leave it in the vehicle and consider plugging in a trickle battery charger if you have access to an electrical outlet OR, disconnect the battery terminals and leave the battery in the car OR buy an inexpensive battery disconnect switch to place on your battery terminal which is what I do. It’s a popular myth that the battery will be discharged if stored on a concrete floor. It won’t, but if you’re a non-believer, set it on a piece of wood if you remove it from your car.
- Wrap the wipers in plastic wrap to prevent the rubber from sticking to the windshield or remove completely and store indoors. I told you I was O-C.
- Jack Stands: If you’re considering putting your vehicle up on jack stands to prevent flat spots on your tires, don’t put the jack stands under the frame as it will stress the rubber bushings in the suspension if the suspension “droops”. Try to keep the weight as it is now... that is, put the jack stands under the outer ball joints to approximate it sitting on the ground.
- Release the parking break. If left on, the brake pads may stick to the rotors.
- Exhaust pipe; air intake: Remove the air filter, wrap it in aluminum foil and replace it for critter-nesting defense. Cover the end of the exhaust pipe(s) with aluminum foil to prevent warm, fuzzy animals from nesting and causing havoc. Note: A plastic orange juice bottle top (such as Tropicana) fits snugly over the exhaust tip of NC’s. Again, do not use toxic moth balls.
- IMPORTANT: leave yourself a little note taped to the steering wheel to remind yourself to move the aluminum foil from the intake air filter, battery disconnect switch and exhaust pipe or the car won’t start and you’ll be wondering why. Also, note any maintenance issues you might want to address in the spring so you don’t forget, i.e., new wipers, fluid replacement (differential, gear, oil), coolant flush, new tires, etc.
- Insurance: You might be tempted to cancel your auto insurance when your vehicle is in storage, that is to cancel completely the Collision insurance and just keep Fire and Theft only. Although

that might initially save money, there is a chance that the insurance company will raise your rates due to the gap in coverage when you re-insure, which could cost you more in the long run. This can vary based on where you live and who your provider is so contact your insurance company to see what options are available to you. Also, it's a pain in the neck to remove license plates and get new plates or store at DMV each fall and spring with accompanying paperwork, standing in line, etc. I personally keep all insurance coverage 100% while in storage. P.S. I insure with Haggerty Insurance – it's so inexpensive great coverage for older Miata's.

- Car Cover: Consider a good, ventilated, breathable car cover to allow water vapor to leave the vehicle surface and to keep dust and dirt off the finish as well as any felines who love to sleep on convertible tops.
- Lock the doors, give 'er a little pat on the fender and say, "See you in April".

Zoom-Zoom Next Spring,

Gail 😊

DISCLAIMER Please note these tips are not reviewed or approved by the Mazda Motor Corporation or any other corporation or entity other than the originator. The Midstate Miata Club of NY does not accept any liability for damage or injury as a result of utilizing these tips and pointers. Please use common sense and always remember safety first

For Sale

If you have a Miata/MX-5 or item for sale or want a Miata/MX-5 or item and would like it to be in our newsletter, please send the information to Lisa Cantone at lisacantone@gmail.com. If you want your ad to be on the website, send the information to Lee Maddy at mrmiataman@yahoo.com. Include a heading, description, your name and contact information (phone, email, address), price, and a photo or two.

Looking for a **NEW** or **PREOWNED** Miata?

If you are considering another vehicle I have a \$500.00 voucher available for any vehicle purchased at Bob Johnson Mazda. Call me at 585-704-9940. - Chuck Rischenole

Miata Alloy Rims

A set of four alloy rims in Ithaca. I am asking \$150 for the set, but will accept any reasonable offer to find them a good home. Jon M Jensen, 607-5924403.

2002 MAZDA Miata MX - 5

Series: NB. Mileage (original): less than 65,000.

Year Built: December 2001. Serial Number: JM1 NB 353 262==4392

Color code: 18J - Emerald Mica

- 1.8 Liter - 142 HP/125 LB FT Torque
- Six Speed Transmission
- Torsen limited slip differential
- Bose AM FM Cassette Sound System
- Keyless door entry
- Continental Extreme Contact tires - 205.45.ZR17
- 17 inch Ruff Racing chrome spoke wheels (no rust or dings)
- Tan leather seats, top & tonneau cover
- All weather full car cover
- Luggage tote bag
- Replaced O2 sensor - November 2024
- Chrome door sill plates and door latch plates
- Auxiliary air induction scoop

Text or call: John B, 585 703 5254 (Victor, NY)

Asking: \$10,800



Chrome Style Bar Covers by IL Motorsport

They can be seen at MossMiata.com for the 2006-2015 NC, and are listed for \$114.99 plus shipping. They are Moss part #904-515. They install with double-sided tape; just peel and stick. These were only used a couple of years and are in very good condition, perfect from one to two yards. Big mark down - \$50.00. Contact: David King, doeskygato@aol.com, 585-377-6461, Penfield.

2001 Mazda Miata LS

Approximately 70,000 Original Miles

★**Engine:** 1.8-liter DOHC inline-four engine with 142 horsepower and 125 ft-lb of torque

★**Transmission:** 6-speed manual transmission with a limited-slip differential

★**Wheels:** 16-inch wheels



- ★**Safety:** Dual front air bags, passenger side deactivation switch, four-wheel disc brakes, seatbelt pre tensioners, and engine immobilizer
 - ★**Comfort:** Leather seating, glass rear window with defroster, and cruise control
 - ★**Audio:** AM/FM Bose audio system with CD
 - ★**Other features:** Power windows, door locks, and mirrors, remote keyless entry, and fog lights
- Asking \$9,500 (negotiable).**

Email Elena at EleMiata2001@gmail.com



Flyin' Miata Gas Pedal Extension

\$20 plus \$10 Shipping & Handling. Will deliver to a club event.
Contact: Bill Krause, WillRevRacing@yahoo.com, 315-952-2319



Set of 4 wheels and tires from a 2025 MX-5 Grand Touring

\$1000 O.B.O. Expected delivery March/April 2025. Local pickup only
Liverpool N.Y. Contact: Bill Krause WillRevRacing@yahoo.com
315-952-2319

License Plate Frame Miata ND3 Jinba Ittai

Aluminum with white primer, yellow face and blue letters. \$20.00, \$10
Shipping & Handling each. Will deliver to a club event. Contact: Bill
Krause, WillRevRacing@yahoo.com, 315-952-2319.



Member Stories

Are you interested in telling your story? Club members have many interests. We are always interested in learning about things that you are doing. I know that there are many great stories out there! Send it along to Lisa Cantone at lisacantone@gmail.com.

- Any interesting Miata story
- Your favorite route
- A trip that lasted a week or more
- An upgrade that improved your Miata
- Your other car (toy)
- A repair you did
- How you volunteer your time
- Other hobbies or interests you have

Let's put our thinking caps on and start writing a piece!

My “Best Ever” Winter Get Away

By: Al MacWilliam

With another Upstate NY winter approaching you may be looking for a winter get away, so let me tell you about my “best one ever!”

Each year around February 20, the Pacific Ocean beach town of Napier, NZ hosts “Deco Days.” This is a late summer activity involving anything from the Art Deco Era, which includes most of the buildings in downtown Napier, people in ‘30s dress, old cars, ‘30s train and plane rides, music, dance, food, drink, and an air show over the Pacific of WW2 vintage aircraft.

The Back Story: In February 1931 an earthquake wiped out most of the village of Napier, and the resulting fires took care of the rest of it! When the entire village was rebuilt, it was done in the latest style of the day, which was Art Deco. By the 1970s some of these buildings started to be replaced, but someone recognized that Napier was an Art Deco time capsule, and a preservation effort was begun to fix up the existing buildings instead of replacing them. This preservation eventually became celebrated by the annual Deco Days event.

People with old cars from all over NZ bring them to the event, and about half the people in the village wear ‘30s clothing. You walk into a drug store to buy sun screen, and a Flapper waits on you! It’s definitely a fun filled event with lots of special activities you can choose between and become involved in. Google it!

How We Did It: It’s a minimum of 24 hours (and up) of plane rides and layovers to get to Auckland, NZ. We signed up with a self-drive tour company and picked an itinerary that took about a month,

but had us in Napier during Deco Days. We flew into Auckland (on the North Island) then immediately on to Christchurch (on the South Island). Here we were met at the airport and driven to our hotel. The next morning our first rental car was delivered to us. A brand new, candy orange Holden with fat tires and a six speed manual transmission! I had some fun breaking it in for them! (You can get anything from there up to a luxury SUV or motor home depending on how much you want to spend on car rental). The tour company supplied us with a NZ Road Atlas and a GPS, with our route between last night's hotel and tonight's hotel highlighted. We could choose to drive it that way, or head out on our own and get to tonight's hotel any way, and at any time that we wanted to. The hotels are like the rental cars, you can spend more and get "Up Scale" lodging if you desire it. We went with the "cheap sheets" and liked all our rooms. All had a refrigerator and stove, so we could make our own suppers and breakfasts.

NZ has every terrain imaginable, unique wildlife, and some great National Parks. Glaciers to fern forests on the South Island and Auckland to Ninety Mile Beach (and Napier) on the North Island. Check it out! I don't think you will be disappointed! It could be your best winter get away ever!

Click this link for Deco Days pictures of the buildings, people, cars, and fun!

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1s-5h22yqFMFtb2kfjBVAPPGeyNM3qVKg>

Leadership Team

President	Karen McKissock	585-820-6010	kmckiss1948@gmail.com
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Facebook Administrator	Elisha Kasinskis	585-737-5425	ekasinskis@hotmail.com
Past President	Ray Mosher	315-935-6281	mosherrskL@yahoo.com
Area Rep - Syracuse	Dale Nagel	315-677-9342	dalen262@aol.com
Area Rep - Binghamton	Barb Hunsinger	607-785-5459	bhunsin928@aol.com
Area Rep - Rochester	Nancy Lowe	585-305-4410	nanlowe53@gmail.com
Area Rep - Ithaca	Gail Wagner	607-257-7445	gwtr3red@gmail.com

Club Information

Website: Our Club has a [website](#). It also works on your phone!

Facebook: Our Club is also on [Facebook](#). There is a lot of information here, and there are updates most days.

YouTube: Our Club has a [YouTube channel](#). Take a look, like, and subscribe!

Favorite Car Shops, Part Stores, Service Centers, and Stuff: The list is [here](#). Send additions and updates to **Karen McKissock for the near future**.

Deadlines: Submissions for the newsletter are due on the 24th of each month.

Events: When advertising your event, include details! Write it as an advertisement and remember to include that date, and rain date if applicable, deadlines, the meeting location, including address, and time, the distance of the drive, and maybe a photo or two. It does not need to be long but should include everything to encourage participation!

Flyer: You can print the [Club Brochure](#); it is a trifold with Club information and an application form. There is a short form for returning members.

Registration: To help gather the list of who is attending our events, we will require members to contact the Event Coordinator directly AND copy your Area Representative. You will only need to respond if you are planning to attend, but if you need to cancel at the last minute you need to let both the Event Coordinator and Area Representative know so they do not hold up the ride waiting for you. Please pay close attention to the contact information and **deadlines**. When an accurate or advanced headcount is required, please do not just show up for an event. Register ahead of time with the Event Coordinator and your Area Representative.

Guest Waiver: Here is the [guest waiver form](#). If you bring a guest, you must print, complete, and give it to the Area Representative or Event Coordinator. Just one part.

Rules: [Caravan Rules](#) to consider before the event. We suggest you bring sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, or a visor. Be sure you have a full tank of gas, and your bladder is empty.

Reports: You should include what people enjoyed in your post-event report. Everyone enjoys hearing about the people and seeing people in or standing next to their Miata/ MX-5s.

Hosting Events: For the more experienced people, here is a [shorter checklist](#). Would you like to host an event? Not sure where to start? We have written this guide and have mentors who will help you. Ask about our "Beginners Guide to Route Planning."