

MIDSTATE MIATA CLUB OF NY “MIATA MEANDERINGS” NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, issue 6

WELCOME TO THE MMC OF NY JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

Today's news includes:

- ✓ President's letter
- ✓ Post event reports
- ✓ Upcoming event details
- ✓ Newsletter article due dates
- ✓ Ice cream schedules
- ✓ Updated schedule of events for this season
- ✓ New Pop Up additions



Visit the Midstate Miata Club
on the Internet at:

www.midstatemiata.net

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Note from Ray Mosher

Despite some cold bits, the topless driving season is finally fully upon us! This is why we put up with the long winter! Top down, hammer down

In the last month, your dues provided over \$1000 to purchase five new two-way radios. One has been distributed to each area. We are working to get some older models fixed so we end up with at least three per area.

Communication is really important in a club like ours. We are far flung geographically and are not big on meetings. So most of our communication is online. Please read your newsletter (preaching to the choir here, I know) as it contains the latest news. Karen works hard to put it together, so please use it! In between newsletters, keep up with the web site. Lee works really hard to keep it up to date with the latest. If you have a question, chances are the answer is in one of those two places. Please don't contact your area rep until you've checked those two sources. Our area reps are great and are happy to help, but they have OTM lives too! Also, the area reps also are not available 24/7/365. They actually sometimes go on vacation without internet access. When that happens, we really need someone else to take over their responsibilities, which mainly consists of sending on new event information. Please consider being a substitute area rep. Contact myself, or your rep, if you are interested in helping out to provide the occasional respite.

My Miata is dead again. On the Run to Rudy's, I smelled something hot. The smell continued on the way home and led to a red battery-charging fault light on the dashboard. The headlights began to dim and the radio cut out. I made it into my driveway before it died, with what I believe is a dead alternator. About 2 miles from home, on the darker side of dusk, with very dim headlights, I pulled

up at a stop light behind an MG. Here I was, stopped behind a British car (notorious for electrical gremlins) struggling to keep my uber-reliable Miata running with an electrical glitch! What irony!

Ray Mosher
MMC President

REMINDER FOR HOW TO RESPOND TO EVENT ATTENDANCE

To help streamline communications for gathering who is attending our events we will require members to contact **the Event Coordinator directly AND copy your Area Rep** to help them plan for caravans from your area. You will **only need to respond if you are planning to attend**, but if you need to cancel last minute you still need to let both parties so they don't hold up the ride waiting for you. Please pay close attention to the contact info and deadlines.

Event Etiquette

If you have RSVP'd for an event, the event organizer is likely expecting you to attend and will wonder where you are if you fail to show up at the appointed time and place. If you end up not being able to attend, please let the organizer know. Otherwise, the whole group may be unnecessarily delayed waiting for you and it adds undue stress on the poor soul who is running the event. Also, if you contact the organizer on the day of the event, please don't use an email, use a direct phone call or text message. Thanks.

ATTENTION ONE AND ALL!!!

THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL VERY COOL EVENTS ADDED TO THE SEASON SCHEDULE FOR OUR MEMBERS. PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE NEW POP UP EVENTS AS WELL AS NEW DETAILS ON OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COMING MONTHS!

POST EVENT REPORTS

Saturday, June 2nd

Marcellus Olde Home Days parade

Event Coordinator – Chuck Paul

Another Parade Passes By

Saturday, June 2nd found 27 Miatas parading through Marcellus, tossing candy and receiving applause (we still don't know why).

Following the parade we paused in beautiful Marcellus Park while a kind member assisted me in inflating a flat tire noticed by two parade watchers. Once inflated, we departed on a short but scenic 18 mile drive ending at Skan-Ellus for food. Thanks to all who attended....looking forward to next year as I'm sure we'll be invited back.



Event Coordinators—Karen and Norm Abbott and Gerry and Maryann Knight

Fillmore Glen State Park

What a treat to know we had a nice day in store for us. No repeat of canceling the picnic and rescheduling, due to terrible flooding in Moravia, closing the park last year. We started out from the Tops parking lot in Dewitt. It just so happened Jay Cartini was stopping by his Carvel location as he had a Carvel event that day. So, of course we harassed him as best we could. He blocked the road for us as we pulled out which he has done in the past, normally in his Miata, but unfortunately for him he was in an OTM (poor Jay). The caravan meandered through Jamesville, down Route 20, through Skaneateles where we stopped for a break, then on through Auburn heading to our final destination, Fillmore Glen State Park.

Once at the state park, pyromaniacs Gerry, Norm and Bob got the grills going as we put tablecloths out and set up for the food. Now our total is 31 Miatas from all four areas of our club. That was more than last year, so let's hope the event keeps growing.

Steaks, burgers, hot dogs, kebobs, and fish, all made their way to the ready coals. We had a good variety of dishes that were shared by everyone. It is amazing what a wonderful assortment of food we end up with, and there is always more than enough. I have heard many supportive remarks stating how pleasant and easy this is to just show up and enjoy the ride and day. This is one of the events you do not have to commit to days and weeks ahead. The club pays for the Pavilion rental and even the \$7 per car entrance fee.

Many took a walk around the park as they walked off their hearty lunch. All enjoyed good food, good conversation, a good ride from their area, and great looking Miatas. Hopefully, it gave everyone a chance to meet more of the club members.

Attendees were Karen & Norm Abbott, Gerry & Maryann Knight, Lee Maddy & Miriam White, Bob & Ronnie Sabella, Linda & Jerry Willis, John Piston, Deane Bergstrom, Jerry & Denise Sabattis, Jeffrey & Meryl Lefkowicz, Jim Gardner & Irma Blood, Barb Hunsinger, Susan & John Amon, Lynda & Bob Dobberstein, Chuck & Grace Rischenole, David King, Lisa & Glenn Morrell, Bill & Nancy Lowe, Ralph & Deanna Bowles, Johnny Montana & Debbie Patten, Marie & Jim Mahar, John Pfeleiderer, Gail Wagner & Steve Wilson, Dick & Dona Flaherty, Kay & John Muller, Jeff & Liz Trescot,

Peter & Dawn Rogers, Cathy & Dale Nagel, Tyler Wainwright & Chris Fesco, Stephanie & Nick Pestillo, Betty & Steve Pederson, Oliver & Susan Blaise

Saturday, June 16

Tour the Museum at Bethel Woods



Event Coordinator –Carol and Lou Trelease

It was a perfect day for a Miata drive - sunshine, blue skies, warm temps, tops down. 31 people in 17 Miatas joined on the drive to the site of Peace, Love and Music - the Woodstock Festival at Bethel Woods.

The Museum has excellent exhibits showing the historical events of the 60's leading up to and influencing the Festival, as well as photos and film footage of the Festival itself with the musical groups performing. There's an interesting exhibit that details each group that performed, when they performed and their complete play list. A special exhibit of Peter Max paintings is there until Dec 31.

Lunch was served outdoors on the covered patio which was a very pleasant location, considering the beautiful weather. Afterward we were able to view the field where the Festival took place and try to imagine the space being filled with 500,000 people! For all of us baby boomers, whether we attended the Festival or not, the 60's and Woodstock are forever part of our DNA.

The Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is a truly impressive facility. Open air concerts by well-known groups are held there during the summer and indoor concerts are held in the smaller Events Gallery. Check out their concert schedule online at BethelWoodsCenter.org. Definitely worth a visit.

Thanks to everyone who came with us.

Lou & Carol Trelease

Saturday, June 16

Glenn Curtiss Museum and Lunch



Event Coordinator –Steve Stewart

Nine Miata's left Victor for the 1 1/2 hour ride to the Glenn Curtiss Museum in Hammondsport. It turned out to be an excellent top down day. Heading south out of Naples we took Rte. 53 which was an interesting ride with curves and hills. South of Prattsburgh we picked up some back roads to head over to Hammondsport. These roads proved to be "very Miata friendly" with lots of curves and elevation changes. I think we have found some new roads for a fall leaf run. Upon arriving at museum we were given a bonus as it was Fathers Day weekend and dads didn't have to pay. Everyone was impressed with museum and its displays. We picked up another Miata at museum for the ride up to Penn Yan and the Antique Inn for lunch. As usual the food and service were excellent. A few cars left us there to do their own thing. The remainder of us made our way up to Canandaigua for a ice cream stop at the Creamery to finish off the day.

Sunday, June 17th

Euro Car Show/ Lorenzo Park Bob Sabella

Event Coordinator – Bob Sabella

Approximately fourteen club members and four or five non-club members with their Miata's enjoyed the 90 degree temperature at the annual EuroCar Show, Sunday June 17th. As in the past, various European cars such as MG's, TR's, Porsche, Jaguars were on display for viewing and judging. Our Miata's attracted many viewers and comments. Brochures were handed out to potential new members. A highlight of the day was the fly over by a vintage bi-plane so low you could see the pilot. The MG club announced they are changing their club name to the European Car Club as they are accepting members from the Jaguar, VW, and other European made car clubs. Of note was the display of a second club member who converted his Miata with Lambo doors. All in all, a great day for a premier car show.

Thursday, June 21 Ride to Rudy's on Lake Ontario



Event Coordinator – Steve Bollenbacher

Eleven Miatas met at Emmi Farm Market Thursday evening 6/21. Unfortunately they closed at 6, so no one got strawberries. We had a sunny and pleasantly cool almost one hour ride on some nice rural roads to the lake shore in Oswego. One prospective member met us there from Sandy Creek. Another couple in a Miata was given info. Everyone had something to eat while waiting for the sun to slowly sink into the water for the sunset of the longest day. The temperature was cooling off so we had a chillier ride home. It was good to see everyone and enjoy their company!

Saturday, June 30 MIATA MAMMAS - LUNCHEON AT ELDERBERRY FARM RESTAURANT Event Coordinator – Gail Wagner



I am woman; hear us roar (out the driveway and down the road)..... ☺

For the first-ever *Miata Ladies Only* event, we left the boys at home, grabbed our car keys and zoomed-zoomed to the charming Elderberry Pond Farm Restaurant in Auburn on a very hot, but gorgeous, sunny afternoon in the country.

We had nine member representatives and their friends from all regions including those who drove all the way from Binghamton ! and a brand-new member from Moravia (Syracuse region) who we “initiated” into her first Miata Club event.

The restaurant was cool and beautiful, the food delicious and the conversation lively and non-stop among the ladies who attended and who relayed great stories of their love and joy of driving their own Miata’s.

I heard many “we have to do this again” which was gratifying and the smiling faces on everyone as we said goodbye confirmed everyone had a wonderful time together.

Sunday, June 24 Ride to Brockway Truck and the Central NY Museum Event Coordinator – Del Austin



Seven cars from Binghamton, Deposit and New Milford PA and two from Ithaca area attended our Sunday run. Cloudy and a little rain, and even some sun. We had a safe run to the Hollywood Restaurant, and good food, and great service. The Central New York Living History Center was outstanding and the Brockway Trucks Museum was very interesting, and covered 127 years on Brockway Truck. A must return, with a lot to see. The Homeville Museum was also something very special. Over a century of military history and items were on display, along with model trains, and a running train layout to work with the buttons you push. After our tour, some of which was guided, we were off to enjoy some great Ice Cream in Homer NY. My guest Steve and I had two banana boats, and yes they were very good. After we finished our ice cream and said our goodbyes, we headed south on 281 to RT 215 to take a nice country road home. 124 miles and not a super highway on the run. Who said you can't have a great Miata day on a rain or shine run? Our tops were down a lot of the time. Thanks to all who took the time to ride into our history. A very special thanks to Carol & Lou Trelease to riding tail, and to David & Marcia Kingsley for their time and help with the ride out of Cortland. Maybe we can do it again!

JULY EVENTS

Saturday, July 8 Pancakes and Planes

Event Coordinator – Steve Bollenbacher

Join us for a short drive up to the Oswego County airport in Fulton to look at planes and participate in their pancake breakfast. Meet at 9:00AM in the rear of Great Northern Mall (theater area). Leave by 9:15AM for a 30 minute ride to the Oswego County airport in Fulton. We will display our cars on the ramp at breakfast until 11:30 AM or so and watch planes. There are free airplane rides available for kids 8-17 years old depending on pilot availability. Since these activities are best without rain, this is a shine only event! Cost for breakfast is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and vets.

Contact Stephen Bollenbacher <sbollenb@gmail.com>

Saturday, July 14 Finger Lakes Live Steamers - Marengo, NY



Event Coordinator – Dale Nagel

The Finger Lakes Live Steamers is an educational non-profit organization of people interested in building and operating large scale model railroad equipment. Their 12 acre club property has layouts for three different track gauges, a club house and storage buildings, turntables, yards, and sidings for each layout. The track at Marengo is one mile in length and features a yard, sidings, bridges, operating signals and a passenger loading stations. The organization will be having their monthly business meeting before our arrival, so there will be plenty of people there to show us around, answer questions and give us rides. For more information on the organization, visit their website at www.fingerlakeslivesteamers.org. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated

Our arrival time will be 2:00 PM. Dale will be organizing a drive from the Syracuse and other areas may do the same. There are picnic tables there where you can have a picnic lunch afterwards if desired.

Reply email to Dale Nagel at dalen262@aol.com by July 7. This is a rain or shine event.

Sunday, July 22

Midstate Miata Club Golf Outing

Event Coordinators – Dale & Cathy Nagel

Millstone Golf Club - Elbridge, NY. Tee off starting at 12:00 noon.

Four person Captain and Crew format. Make your own foursomes or let Dale & Cathy know and we'll pair people up. Pay for your own golf and cart, \$40.

Dinner afterwards at CC's Tavern on site. Order off the menu and pay for your own.

Maybe a small fee to go towards prizes just to make it interesting (unless I can get the club to kick in something).

Reply email to Dale Nagel, dalen262@aol.com by July 14. This is a shine or little bit of rain event (not pouring rain).

Wednesday July 11 Cruise Night at the Log Cabin

Event Coordinator - Chuck Rischenole

This is a shine only event We will meet again for our annual visit to the Log Cabin Restaurant on route 31F in Macedon. Reserved parking spaces for the club, great food outdoors or indoors if you prefer. A great selection of cars and motorcycles to look at and reminisce. I will need a headcount no later than **July 9** to get enough spaces set aside for us. Let me only if you will be going at candgr@gmail.com or 585-223-7586. Let your area rep know if you will be going to set up caravanning to the event.

Hope to see you all there

Sunday July 22nd

Eagle's Mere Auto and Air Museum and Lunch Buffet

Coordinator: Del & Virginia Austin

email: virdel2347@aol.co

RAIN OR SHINE

The run will start from Vestal Public Library parking lot on Rt 434 E at 9:30 a.m. and travel RT 26S to PA 267S and pick up PA 706 W to Wyalusing PA. There we will pick up PA187, a Real Miata road. After the twisties, we head west on PA 87 W to Dushore PA where we pick up US RT 220 south to Lapotte, We pick up RT 42 for a short run to Eagles Mere. Just before Eagles Mere we will visit one of PA best kept secrets, The Eagles Mere Auto and Air museums.

And this has to be one of the very best. The cars are pristine, and include 'Vettes, Chevrolet Nomads, Yenke's Camaro, Mustangs, Woodies, and 'Rods. They all run and look like they just came off the assembly line. Two men own the two museums and the auto museum owner's family own fifty-eight pristine 57 Chevrolet's. The air museum has some of the best bi-planes I have seen and they take them out and fly them.

Cost for both museums is \$8.00 per person covers both museum.

After our tour of the two museums, we will travel back Rt 42 to 220S about a mile and a half for lunch at the D&D Brew Works. After lunch (reservation required - see info below), we will back track our routes home, with an ice cream stop planned!

***** Be sure you notify the run Coordinator and Area Rep. one week before the event if you plan on attending this run for restaurant reservations. *****

*** IMPORTANT : Because of the run time for the up-coming Eagle's Mere Miata Club run on Sunday July 22, we will be having a buffet lunch at D&D Brew Works. It will allow us all to eat at the same time, and no one will have to watch other members get their lunch before them. That way we all will be ready to depart at the same time.

The buffet will consist of Pulled Pork, Potato Salad, Fried Chicken, a Tossed Salad, and a Drink. **Cost will be \$12.00 per person.**

Saturday July 28 Middlesex Roast Beef Dinner

This is a Rain or Shine event

Event Coordinator - Chuck Rischenole

It's time again for our annual Middlesex Roast Beef Dinner trip. We will meet at Bill Gray's at 1225 Jefferson Rd in Henrietta **for a 2:00 pm A.I.S.M.R. departure time**. For any new members that's "Ass In Seats Motors Running". There will be an approximately a 1 ½ to 2 hour ride to Middlesex.

Like everything else there was a price increase this year to \$12.00 per person and I can guarantee that you will not leave hungry. For those who haven't done it before this is a fresh cut roast beef dinner with all the trimmings served family style at tables of eight.

I suggest you get your pie for dessert to go because we will be continuing on after dinner to Canandaigua for the required ice cream stop. Contact me directly **only if you will be going or if you have to cancel out** at candgr@gmail.com or 585-223-7586 and your area reps. If you have to cancel on the day of the event call me at 585-704-9940

AUGUST EVENTS

Saturday August 4th Wilson Boat House Ride and Lunch

Event Coordinator – Karen and Ron McKissock

This is a rain or shine event.

How about a ride along Lake Ontario to a beautiful little harbor restaurant in Wilson, NY for lunch? We will leave from the PUB 235 restaurant parking lot on Rt. 250 in Webster at 10:00 am promptly and travel for about an hour and a half to Wilson where we will eat while enjoying a view of the harbor and yacht club. After lunch we can peruse a couple shops and then take off for an ice cream in Youngstown nearby. Menu choices are as follows:

Boathouse Chicken Salad \$14++
The Original Pot-Roast Burger (my personal favorite) \$12++
Boathouse Smash Ball Burger \$13++
Beef on Weck \$12++
Bryan Veggie Wrap \$8 or more with Chicken/shrimp/beef ++

Add a dish of Boathouse Chowder for \$7++
For full menu descriptions please go to www.wilsonboathouse.com

Contact us by Saturday July 27th if you plan on attending.

Saturday August 25th Communicating with Wolves

Event Coordinator – Jerry and Linda Willis

This is a light sprinkle or shine event.

Join us for a trip to Wolf Mountain. It will start at Fayetteville Mall McDonalds restaurant at 2pm and leave at 2:30pm for some great Miata country roads arriving for dinner at the Good Nature Farm Brewery (GNFB) in Hamilton NY about 4:30 including a potty stop if necessary. Leaving the GNFB at 6:15pm for a 30 minute ride up Wolf Mountain (really a hill) for about an hour and a half with a very educational introduction by Native American Will Pryor about the wolves and coyotes on a 26 acre preserve. You'll learn how to make them howl in unison. Very eerie especially when standing close to them. They can be heard for miles. Check out their excellent web site: www.thewolfmountainnaturecenter.org. This is a light sprinkle or shine event.

Admission-\$5

Dinner items range from \$4 to \$13 for soup&salads,tacos,burgers,bbq items, some vegan items, woodfired pizza and deserts. And of course beer and wine.

Contact by Saturday August 11 if you plan on attending.

Jerry & Linda Willis o_lake_676@hotmail.com or 315-676-3072

Saturday August 25th Trip to Vidler's 5¢ and 10¢ in East Aurora including lunch

Event Coordinator – John Amon

This is a rain or shine event.

If you have never been to Vidler's 5¢ and 10¢ and/or East Aurora this is a trip not to be missed. If you have been to Vidler's you will not want to miss the chance to go again. Vidler's is the largest 5¢ and 10¢ variety store in the world! They have 75,000 items in four buildings on two levels. They must have something you need! East Aurora is home to breweries, galleries, gift stores, museums, theaters (stage and screen), bookstores, coops, bakeries, and much more.

Meet us at West Ridge Mazda at 4692 W. Ridge Road on the north side. We will be departing at 9:30 am SHARP. We will drive together to East Aurora with a pit stop along the way. We'll have lunch at the Riley Street Station restaurant. After lunch we will explore Vidler's and/or the shops in town. Everyone is on their own to make it home but suggested directions will be provided.

This is a rain or shine event, but I am planning (hoping) for shine.

Please let me know by August 16 if you will be attending so I can let the restaurant know how many to expect (we'll order from

the menu). Phone or email me at (585) 617-4334 or johnnamon@gmail.com and Steve Stewart (sastew1943@gmail.com). Hope you will be able to attend.

ICE CREAM NIGHTS 2018



MMC ICE CREAM SCHEDULE, SYRACUSE

KAREN ABBOTT

Monthly: 2nd & 4th Thursdays @ 7:00pm

July 12- Pete's Polar Parlor, 3345 Milton Ave, Solvay

July 26- North Pole Ice Cream, 620 E Genesee St, Chittenango (parking in back)

August 9- Sno Top, 315 Fayette St, Manlius

August 23- Vicki's Tasty Treat, 680 Old Liverpool Rd, Liverpool

September 13- Big Dip, 216 No Main Street, No Syracuse

September 27- Carvel Ice Cream, 4322 E Genesee St, Dewitt (inside seating-park in Tops Grocery lot)

OCTOBER 11- AT 6:30 TODAY- SWEET FROG, FAYETTEVILLE TOWNE CENTER, FAYETTEVILLE (INSIDE SEATING)

MMC ICE CREAM SCHEDULE, ITHACA

GAIL WAGNER

Monthly: 1st Thursday of each month@ 7:00pm

Ithaca, proudly "centrally isolated"! 2018 Monthly Ithaca Ice Cream Night begins May 2018 on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at hometown Purity Ice Cream, corner 700 Cascadilla St./Meadow St. (Route 13) in Ithaca. Please park behind the I.D. Booth Plumbing and/Heating Supply Company building on Cascadilla St. as we have in the past. (Questions: Gail Wagner, Ithaca-area Rep, gwtr3red@gmail.com). All are cordially welcome!

Dates: July 5, August 2, September 6, October 4

MMC ICE CREAM SCHEDULE, ROCHESTER

CHUCK RISCHENOLE

6:00PM 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month

July 11 Log Cabin Restaurant Rt. 31F Macedon & Long Acre Farmer 1342 Eddy Rd. Macedon

July 24 Tom Wahl's Rt.96 Bushnells Basin & Abbotts across the street on the canal

August 14 Dairy Queen 919 Hard Rd. Webster & Pultneyville Deli 4120 Lake Rd. Pultneyville

August 28 Kroney's 500 Hamlin Clarkson Town Line Rd. Hamlin & Lugia's 4719 Lyell Rd. Spencerport

September 11 Orbachers 4793 Rt. 104 Williamson

September 25 Colby's Rt.15 & 250 Rush

MMC ICE CREAM SCHEDULE, BINGHAMTON -2018

BARB HUNSINGER

TIME: 6:30

Monday - July 2 - Pop's Sugar Shack - [589 Conklin Rd, Binghamton, NY](#)

Wednesday - July 18 - Ice Cream Works - North Ave, Owego, NY (between Talcott & George St)

Monday - August 6 - Tastie Cream - [2021 Vestal Pkwy, Vestal, NY](#)

Wednesday - August 22 - School House Creamery - [17 Fox Farm Rd, Windsor, NY](#) Exit 77

Tuesday - September 4 - Pop's Sugar Shack - [589 Conklin Rd, Binghamton, NY](#)

Wednesday - September 26 - Suzy Q, Chenango St, Hillcrest, NY

TECHNICAL TIPS – ‘WENCH WITH A WRENCH’



By Gail Wagner – Midstate Miata Club of NY

Hello Miata Folks,

I hope you are all enjoying summer at last and have participated in some of the Club's 2018 events. Here's hoping the NY weather will be more cooperative than last year and we can have a wonderful driving season.

Please remember that all of my past columns are archived on our Club website (www.midstatemiata.net) under the TECH heading. If you have any ideas for future columns that may be of interest to all, please let me know (gwr3red@gmail.com).

PASSING GAS - THE EGR (EMISSIONS CONTROL VALVE)

Introduction

Now that the world is finally aware of how toxic gases can be for people and how they drastically affect global warming and dissolution of the earth's protective ozone layer, it's important to understand the importance of how emission control devices work to detoxify vehicle exhaust pollutants and disburse them as safely as possible.

Temperatures in your engine's combustion chamber can get as hot as 2,500+ degrees F. When that happens, a chemical reaction takes place creating NOx, or Nitrous Oxide, an indirect "greenhouse gas". This new gas, along with other burned and unburned fuel, passes from the combustion chamber during the exhaust part of combustion, travels through the exhaust system, out the tailpipe and into the atmosphere.

What Is The EGR Valve?

The **EGR valve** (*exhaust gas recirculation*) is a nifty little valve that works along with other emissions controls devices in your engine such as the PVC valve (see previous column) and the catalytic converter. By 1973, the EGR was standard in most vehicles.

What Does It Do?

Basically, the EGR valve recirculates a certain percentage of the exhaust gases back into the intake manifold of the engine which lowers the gases peak temperature in the combustion chambers which results in lower NOx emissions and a cleaner exhaust making your Miata more environmentally-friendly. The valve is either vacuum or electronically controlled on all cars. The EGR has two settings: open or closed. Normally, it should remain closed when the engine is starting up, at low speed or idling. Once the engine reaches operating temperature it should open and allow gasses to pass BUT, unfortunately, it can become stuck over time clogged with carbon deposits that prevent it from operating properly.

If It's Stuck, It Does Not Suck

Stuck-closed valves don't prevent creation of NOx, so the engine will heat to dangerous levels leaving a lot of unburned fuel into the exhaust system (you may notice a strong gas smell because of the increase in hydrocarbons leaving the tailpipe) and will certainly reduce your fuel efficiency. You may also experience engine pinging, tapping or knocking and that hated "Check Engine" will illuminate on your dash.

Conversely, a stuck-open EGR valve will allow exhaust air to flow back into the intake manifold before the engine needs it causing a rough idle, poor acceleration, hesitation when accelerating stalling or poor performance overall, as well as increased fuel consumption.

Clogged EGR valves can sometimes be cleaned but replacement is necessary if the valve is truly faulty. When it is ruined or not working, it must be replaced immediately since it directly impacts engine performance and emissions control.

If you experience any of the above symptoms, your mechanic can scan for trouble "codes" and find out whether this is the problem and if EGR replacement is necessary.

p.s. A faulty open or closed EGR can cause a failed smog test during your annual vehicle inspection.

By The Way - Is It Something Else?

Just to make things more complicated, the above engine performance problems cited with open or closed EGR can also indicate problems in other parts of the engine:

- Bad spark plugs
- Bad spark plug wires or coil packs (whichever your engine model has)
- Plugged fuel filter
- Bad Fuel Pump regulator
- Various other engine sensors

Take care of your Miata and it will take care of you.

Zoom Zoom Safely!

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!



NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Event Coordinators should be prepared to submit their information per the schedule

above in order to publish the newsletter in a timely fashion. Thanks!!!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>Pre-event article due date</u>	<u>Post event report due date</u>
8-Jul	Pancakes and Planes	Steve Bollenbacher	5/26	7/21
14-Jul	Finger Lakes Steamers	Dale Nagel	5/26	7/21
11-July DATE CHANGE	Log Cabin Car Show	Chuck Rischenole	5/26	7/21
22-Jul	Golf Outing	Dale Nagel	5/26	25-Jul
28-Jul	Middlesex Dinner	Chuck Rischenole	5/26	29-Jul
4-Aug New Pop Up	Wilson Boat House ride and lunch	Karen McKissock	6/23	8/25
12-Aug	Skaneateles Polo	Chuck Paul	6/23	8/25
25-Aug	Wolf Mountain	Jerry Willis	6/23	8/27
25-Aug New Pop Up	Vidlers 5 and 10 Variety Story in E. Aurora	John Amon	6/23	8/27

7-Sep	Watkins Glen Vintage Weekend	Ray Mosher	7/21	9/24
15-Sep	Palmyra Parade	Chuck Rischenole	7/21	9/24
23-Sep	Apple Crawl	Lee Maddy	7/21	9/26
30-Sep	Road Rally	Ray Mosher	7/21	10/1
6-Oct	Fall Foliage Run	John Piston	8/21	10/20
11-Oct	Spragues with the Niagara Club	Chuck Rischenole	8/21	10/20
2-Dec	Holiday Party	John Piston	9/24	n/a

EVENT SCHEDULE WITH TEASERS (MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW NEARER THE EVENTS)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>Teaser (more details to follow)</u>
8-Jul	Pancakes and Planes	Steve Bollenbacher	A short drive up to the Oswego County airport in Fulton to look at planes and participate in their pancake breakfast
14-Jul	Finger Lakes Steamers	Dale Nagel	Scaled down little trains that you can ride along a prepared track
11-July DATE CHANGE	Log Cabin Car Show	Chuck Rischenole	Special parking @ the weekly car show. Fun, food and prizes available. Over 600 cars average along with numerous motorcycles.
22-Jul	Golf Outing	Dale Nagel	Details to follow.
28-Jul	Middlesex Dinner	Chuck Rischenole	Scenic drive to Middlesex to participate in their family style roast beef dinner. Ice cream afterwards.
4-Aug New Pop Up	Wilson Boat House ride and lunch	Karen McKissock	A casual ride along Lake Ontario to the Wilson Harbor for lunch at the Boat House.
12-Aug	Skaneateles Polo	Chuck Paul	A cool drive, Bob's BBQ with a picnic at the field and a professional polo match.
25-Aug	Wolf Mountain	Jerry Willis	A scenic drive out to Hamilton for early dinner at the Good Nature Farm Brewery then on to Wolf Mtn to get up close and personal with some wolves

25-Aug New Pop Up	Vidlers 50 and 10 Variety Store	John Amon	Scenic ride to E. Aurora for a fun visit to the famous Vidlers Variety Store with a stop for lunch.
7-Sep	Watkins Glen Vintage weekend	Ray Mosher	Info only. Contact Ray directly. Check the Glen's website for more information.
15-Sep	Palmyra Parade	Chuck Rischenole	Drive to Palmyra for lunch and participation in their annual parade, then off the Canandaigua for ice cream.
23-Sep	Apple Crawl	Lee Maddy	Help determine which orchard makes the best fritter with a short, but magical ride through LaFayette NY
30-Sep	Road Rally	Ray Mosher	Try your luck and skill at one of the premier auto experiences in CNY. Bragging rights and a trophy are up for grabs
6-Oct	Fall Foliage Run	John Piston	A scenic trip through the Adirondacks.
11-Oct UPDATE	Spragues with the Niagara Club	Chuck Rischenole	We will have a fun drive to join up with the Niagara Club for a ride to the restaurant in Portville for lunch. After lunch a drive to our final destination Colby's in Rush for an ice cream stop.
2-Dec	Holiday Party	John Piston	The Point at Sand Beach in Auburn

MMC Leadership team

OFFICE	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL
President	Ray Mosher	315-635-2584	mosherrskl@yahoo.com
Vice President	Rosemary DeHoog	315-446-3317	rdehoog@twcny.rr.com
Secretary	Miriam White	315-637-0472	white.miriam@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ronnie Sabella	315-463-9643	ronnievs@twcny.rr.com
Past President	Karen McKissock	585-820-6010	kmckiss1948@gmail.com

ROLE	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL
Membership/ Historian	Bob Sabella	315-463-9643	rsabella@twcny.rr.com
Activities Chair	Jay Cartini	315-676-4776	JPCartini@aol.com
Webmaster	Lee Maddy	315-637-0472	mrmiataman@yahoo.com

Area Rep/Syr	Karen Abbott	315-299-6880	KLDAbbott@hotmail.com
Area Rep/Syr	John Piston	315-415-5770	efrog22@gmail.com
Area Rep/Roch	Steve Stewart	585-5869152	sastew1943@gmail.com
Area Rep/S Tier	Barb Hunsinger	607-785-5459	bhunsin928@aol.com
Area Rep/Ithaca	Gail Wagner	607-257-7445	gwtr3red@gmail.com
Newsletter	Karen McKissock	585-820-6010	kmckiss1948@gmail.com

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