



Midstate Miata Club of New York

“Miata Meanderings”

Official Newsletter for October 2016
Visit the Midstate Miata Club on the Internet at:
www.midstatemiata.net

President's Message



So here we are at the second to the last newsletter of the season. Where did it go?! But....it's not over yet. There are still several more events calling to you saying....come zoom, zoom with us.

Fall is a great time to put the top down and see the beautiful changing leaves, and smell the crisp fresh air as it flies by your windows or over your head.

Touch the pedal down and feel the power under your feet while hearing the roar of the engine as you drive into a farm stand to taste the fresh crop of apples. There, I think I got all the senses in there to help motivate you to get in your car a few more times before the snow flies.

And, lest your memory isn't what it used to be, I'd like to encourage all of you to visit our Photo Gallery on the club website (midstatemiata.net) to review not only this year's pictures, but many from years past as well. Thank you so much to everyone who has been sending in pictures to Lee Maddy (mrmiataman@yahoo.com) to help us document the fun and friendships that the club embodies. I'd like to ask you all to send some more of your pictures to Lee to continue adding to the memories we all enjoy.

A quick reminder as the season begins to close down. If you hear of anyone who is ill or has a death in the family, please contact Mary Lou Reisdorf (reisdorfm@yahoo.com), our Sunshine Club ambassador so she can send appropriate acknowledgement. This is a year around activity...but we're hoping to not have any issues. However, having said that, we'd like to express our condolences to Miriam White (our Secretary) for the loss of her Mother recently.

Last, but not least, I'd like to ask you all to think of what fun you've had this year and to get back to me with what you'd like to do more of or over again, and any ideas you had along the trails this year. It won't be long until we start planning again for next year and it would be great to 'seed' the process with ideas while they're fresh. I can be reached at (585)820-6010 or at kmckiss1948@gmail.com. Hope to hear from all of you.

Until we meet again, Zoom, Zoom safely and often.

Karen



Welcome New Members

Deane Bergstrom

<u>Member</u>	<u>Where From</u>	<u>Miata</u>	<u>Area Rep</u>
Al Olsen	Brockport	2007 Grey	Marcy Edmiston
John Okeeffe	Brackney, PA	2016 GT Red	Joe Lamphere

October Events

Saturday, October 8 - Honesdale, PA Harvest & Heritage Festival Lou & Carol Trelease



We'll meet at the Big M parking lot in Windsor, NY at 10:00 AM for a scenic drive to Honesdale, PA, (about 60 miles) enjoying fall colors and views of the Delaware River. Upon arriving in Honesdale, we'll have lunch at the Hotel Wayne. This is the weekend of the Harvest & Heritage Festival with vendors of crafts, baked goods, honey, maple syrup and side-walk sales set up along the main street. We'll take time to browse what the vendors have to offer, and then head back to Windsor via a different but still scenic route. Barring severe weather, this is a rain or shine event.

Sunday, October 16th - Cornell Lab of Ornithology Tour and Walk Gail Wagner & Steve Wilson



We will meet at the Tops Market, 2300 N. Triphammer Road, Ithaca, at 10:45 a.m. After a short driver's meeting, we will depart promptly at 11:00 a.m. for the Cornell Ornithology Lab Imogene Powers Johnson Center for Birds and Biodiversity, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca.

A scheduled visitor's tour will begin from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to learn about the history and work of the Lab as we are guided behind the scenes for an inside look at this 100-year old institution.

On your own, you may tour the building, watch an introductory film, see world-class art and check out the interactive bird exhibits. Weather permitting, amble four miles of trails of various lengths and boardwalks on your own to explore the Sapsucker Woods 230-acre sanctuary that encompasses forests, ponds, swamps, and abundant wildlife. A visitor favorite is the Wilson Trail, just a ¾ mile loop around Sapsucker Woods Pond. The Woods provide countless opportunities to view wild birds in their natural habitat. Wild birds are also visible from within the Visitor Center in the bird-feeding garden and across the pond.

Admission is free but donations are appreciated. There are restrooms within the building and a gift store. Wear your comfortable walking shoes, dress for the weather and bring binoculars. Lunch will be on your own and you may leave when you wish. There is a Friendly's, MacDonald's and Ithaca Bakery Deli nearby (check with Gail).



Please let your local rep know if you are attending NO LATER THAN MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2016.

September Event Reports

Wonderful World of Oz Drive

Norm & Karen Abbott



It sure was a "Wonderful" day filled with lots of activity and excitement. We started at the Doubletree Hotel on Carrier Circle with 9 cars and a few clouds with expectations of clearing skies. Then a short meandering drive to Chittenango, the home of the Oz Museum, where we met an additional 12 cars led by Joe Lamphere from Binghamton. We flooded the Oz museum with 38 people where Colleen Zimmer and Marc Baum greeted us. Marc gathered us for a "Wonderful" guided tour, with a wealth of information on the history of L Frank Baum, his writings, his life with Maude Gage the daughter of Matilda Joslyn Gage and so

much more. We really could have stayed there longer as Marc was an incredible source of information on all things Oz. We Definitely need to visit again! After we had a group picture outside the museum, we headed out for a drive through the Manlius hills under beautiful sunny skies and two separate trips down the twisty Gulf Road.

Upon arriving at the Matilda Joslyn Gage Home in Fayetteville, we were shown a brief documentary about the Gage Center and our docent filled us in on her mission as a visionary of women's rights and human liberation along with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B Anthony. The Gage house also served as a station on the under ground railroad. This home is the only house in the country open to the public where L Frank



Baum spent considerable personal time. Frank and Maud were married in this house in 1882. This is the home where the seeds of Oz were sown. It is amazing how much important history happened right here in central New York. After our group photo on the front porch, we continued to the Yellow Brick Road Casino as suggested by Marc Baum for lunch.

When we arrived at the Casino, it did take a little time to get everyone who did not have a Turning Stone Casino Card signed up, as that is how they issue credits for food and free play. Now that many have a card, please be sure to keep them as they have plenty of room for a lunch or banquet at another time or also a buffet at the main Turning Stone in Verona. Once we sat down with our food, everyone seemed to enjoy his or her lunch. They had very nice wraps, club sandwiches etc for a very reasonable price. I mentioned to several people it would be nice to have someone win something on the slots just to say we had a winner. Well, boy was I surprised when Marcia Kingsley came over and said she won \$250. Then Susan and Oliver Blaise won \$160, then Linda Willis won \$81, then Jerry Willis won \$52, then Dona Flaherty won \$67, then Dick Flaherty won \$82, then Norm came over and said he won \$114. Well I guess that put a "WONDERFUL" end to this trip.

Palmyra Parade

Chuck Rigchenole



11 cars from the Rochester Group started out on this club event with a departure from the Log Cabin Restaurant in Macedon in iffy weather. Some members ran into heavy rains just getting to the starting point. No weather problems getting to the Yellow Mills Diner for lunch which everyone agreed the meals were excellent.

The drive from there to the staging area for the parade was a new challenge because they had all the roads blocked off going into the village but we managed to get there by sneaking around one of the road closed barricades. Once we finally reached the staging area it started raining just like last year's parade but at least this year we had some trees to stand under to get out of the rain.

Had the opportunity this year to meet the parade coordinator in person and found out she was a Miata owner and was presented with an application form to join the club. The sun finally broke through the clouds and we had time to wipe the cars down before the start of the parade. We were welcomed by and they want us back next year (hopefully with more cars). After the parade it was a short drive to Canandaigua for the traditional ice cream stop and then home.

Bill Hodge Road Rally

Gary Schoonmaker



The 2016 running of the Bill Hodge Road Rally was held on Sunday, September 25, in the southwest corner of Onondaga County. It was a beautiful day, driving through some of the prettiest countryside in Central New York! The Rally was run by nine cars and eight prizes were awarded. The top prize and the Hodge trophy was won by the team of Dale and Kathy Nagle, who also won two of the other prizes. This was their first time winning the rally! The team of Mary Huntington/Sharon Hoogs came in second overall. Congratulations!! In addition to the trophy, the Nagles received \$10 cash to have their names engraved on the trophy as well as a \$25.00 gas card for Fastrac. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who participated!

Copies of the race directions, questions and bonus questions can be requested from Gary Schoonmaker at LAGARY@aol.com. If you missed the Rally this year, you missed a great time! Dale and Kathy will be planning it next year...plan right now to be there!

August Event Report

Northeast Classic Car Museum Visit and Caravan John Pfleiderer



The weather was perfect for a “top down” drive. The RSVP count was encouraging at 25 cars. Fifteen of which showed up at Mc Donald’s in Cortland for the Caravan, with the “Binghamton Area Drivers” bringing ten more cars. The caravan from Cortland left on time and we took a rural route through Cortland and Chenango Counties. Both groups met up at Fred’s Inn just south of Norwich for a Sunday Brunch Buffet which was enjoyed by all.



Our Miatas filled the parking lot as we started engines for the short drive north to see the Classic Car Museum. Some folks had seen the museum before and returned to the road for another drive. Many did tour the museum (about 20 MMC members) and the museum’s staff were

friendly, helpful and answered many questions about the collections and cars on display.

A good portion of the classic cars on display are part of the Staley Collection and the museum has other themed displays. For our visit, one theme was muscle cars and Police cars of the ‘60s and ‘70s. The museum offers a look into the past and allows the visitor to think back to another time or associate a memory of childhood by seeing the cars you might had seen driving through you



r neighborhood. Both exotic and more common place examples of classic vehicles are all there to enjoy! A good time was had by all!

Wench With a Wrench

Gail Wagner



October Miscellaneous Ramblings and Other Stuff

Hi, Miata Folks,

Yes, I’m Back...

I'm back "on the air" after an unexpected July, August and September hiatus. Thankfully, all is well now and I'm trying like *you-know-what* now to make up for a basically Miata-less summer. ☺

Yes, A Few More Maintenance Reminders

You know me by now.... ☺ A few gentle reminders if you've gotten busy with summer stuff like me:

- You should be checking tire pressure, oil and brake fluid levels, battery fluid (distilled water only if applicable) and eyeballing that tangle of hoses, wires and belts under the hood.
- You'll want to think about changing your oil and OEM filter before putting your Miata into winter storage. She's worked hard for you all summer and deserves a fresh engine blood transfusion.
- A thorough wash, convertible top cleaner/conditioner and hand wax wouldn't hurt now too if you haven't since springtime. I know it's a pain but it's good physical exercise and a good real waxing will help protect your paint finish in the long run, especially on those oldie-goldie Miatas out there. Get the grandkids to help! I hope you are removing bugs, road tar and bird guano after each driving session as those are paint and clearcoat eaters.
- **If you are storing your car for winter at the end of September (I hope not as early to mid-October fall driving can be spectacular), please check out my past Tech column on our website, "Winter Storage Tips".**
- You might wanna' start making a list of stuff you need to attend to next spring, i.e., new plugs and wires, new air filter, new fuel filter, new windshield wipers, flush and replace antifreeze (this should be checked and flushed/replaced every 30K), new tires, front-end alignment, etc. and leave the list in your glove compartment for Spring 2017.

A Tip From My \$\$\$ Sad Experience

I have a (bad) habit of pushing the sun visor in my non-Miata vehicles forward to keep the bright sun out of my eyes while driving. To my surprise, the hard plastic visor on my 2006 MX5 does not push forward towards the windshield much at all. In fact, I managed to break off a small plastic piece holding it in place which caused it to hang down at quite a sad, limp angle and certainly no longer usable. After finding a new discounted \$60 OEM visor on the Internet, I installed it after removing the plastic header holding the sun visor mount. Dealers will charge you \$90 parts, plus labor. Just a word to the Miata Wise....just use caution adjusting the visors.

A Shameless Pitch and Kudo for Our Local Mazda Dealer/Sponsor

I am now a happy two-Mazda vehicle owner.

As you know, Mazda of West Ridge in Spencerport, NY (west of Rochester) is one of our sponsors and the owner, Marcy Edmiston, is our Rochester-area Club rep. I decided to purchase a Mazda SUV this summer after much research and after test driving a Mazda AWD CX3 (wow, fun). I emailed Marcy and asked her to quote the exact CX3 model and color (red, of course☺) that I wanted. Within hours, Marcy replied and soon after that I had a custom quote from her saleswoman, one of USA Mazda's top 10 award-winning customer service salespeople. All of this took place within hours on a Friday afternoon. The next morning I drove to Spencerport and picked up my new, ready-to-go Soul Red Metallic Mazda and drove back to Ithaca with a big smile.

Folks, Marcy was tops in my book for customer service, price and dealer wow-factor. I'm passing this on in case anyone is considering buying a new Mazda of any kind. And the car, well, I have 3000 miles on *Yuki* (Japanese for "happiness" and "snow") since July. She and *Scarlet* are now best buds in my driveway. Thanks Marcy!

Okay, Now the Techie Stuff.....

Torque – Let’s Twist Again Like We Did Last Summer.....

While I was shopping around for my new SUV, I was especially interested in horsepower and vehicle weight but what about that other engine rating: torque? If you don’t understand it, I’ll give it a layman’s try here for ya’.

Torque and (horse)power are what engines produce when you turn the key and press the accelerator. Air and fuel ignited in the combustion chambers cause the crankshaft, transmission, and drive axles to “do the twist”, and no, not the Chubby Checker Twist. ☺ It’s a miracle of energy conversion: the energy in a gallon of gas efficiently changed to the energy needed for driving your car. Gotta’ hand it to those combustion engine inventors.

So what are the differences between horsepower and torque? Both play a role in performance but most of us don't really understand exactly how or why. Let's begin by explaining the technical difference between the two.

Horsepower is defined as “the amount of energy required to lift 550 pounds, one foot, in one second”, i.e., force, distance and time or the rating that describes how powerful an engine is (and yes, Mr. Watt really did use a horse ‘back in the day’ to figure this out). Distance and time are self-explanatory but force, specifically a “twisting force”, is what torque is all about. In fact, there’s not a single machine in existence that measures a car’s horsepower! It’s a man-made number. Horsepower is a product of torque and rpms’s.

When a car’s performance is tested, its *torque* is measured using a dynamometer. Horsepower is an additional number that’s attained mathematically. For you physics-heads: $H = T \times \text{rpm} / 5252$, where H is horsepower, T is pound-feet, rpm (revolutions per minute) is how fast the engine is spinning and 5252 is a constant that makes the units jibe. To make more power an engine needs to generate more torque, operate at higher rpm, or both.

Torque is defined as “the moment of a force or system of forces tending to cause rotation or twisting” or how flexible or how much force can be expressed in a given gear. So simply, torque is nothing more than a measurement of twisting, or *rotational*, force. (For you Latin scholars, torque gets its name from the Latin word *torquere* meaning “to twist”.) When you turn the key, engine combustion forces a piston (or group of pistons) down in a straight line, which pushes on a connecting rod and turns the engine's crankshaft. It's this turning crankshaft where the twisting (rotational) force of torque initiates. From there the force is carried through a flywheel, transmission, driveshaft, axle(s) and wheel(s) before moving the car.

The measurement of torque is stated as “pound-feet” and represents how much twisting force is at work. You may have noticed, this measurement of torque does not include “time”. One-hundred pound-feet of torque is always 100 pound-feet torque whether it is applied for five seconds or five years. Horsepower and torque figures are usually expressed at a certain engine speed.

For example, on my 2006 MX5:

- Horsepower: 170 hp @ 6700 rpm
- Torque: 140 ft.-lbs. @ 5000 rpm

Higher torque numbers result in better acceleration for passing or getting the car under way and lower engine speed at a given load such as towing a trailer up-hill. One of the downsides of high torque is when there is limited traction. In snow, gravel, or wet pavements, high torque can make it easier to spin out. This could impact your ability to get moving from a stop to making the vehicle more prone to losing control when in motion.

Additionally, how fast the car accelerates, its top speed, how fast it "feels", are all results of other components of the car such as transmission, suspension, programming, tuning etc.

To see how torque and horsepower interact, imagine an SUV at the base of a steep hill. The engine is idling and the gear lever is in the first gear or "D" position. As the driver begins to press on the throttle, the engine's rpm increases and force is transmitted from the crankshaft to each wheel, and the SUV begins to climb upward. The twisting force going to each wheel as the vehicle moves up the hill is "torque".

This is because at low speeds the transmission's gears work to transmit maximum torque from the engine to the wheels. You want this because it takes more force, or torque, to move a vehicle that is at rest than it does to move a vehicle in motion.

Conversely, once a vehicle is underway, you want less torque and more horsepower to maintain a high speed because horsepower is a measurement of work done and includes a time element such as wheel revolutions per minute necessary to maintain 75 mph. Okay, 65 mph. ☺

So, if you want a quick answer to the difference between horsepower and torque, just keep in mind that horsepower involves the amount of work done in a given time, while torque is simply a measurement of force and is thus a component of horsepower.

Here's a cool phrase I found about the relationship between horsepower and torque: "Horsepower is what you read about; torque is what you feel".

I hope you found the above interesting, fun, and informative. 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!

Holiday Party

John Piston



The annual Holiday will be held on December 4, 2016 at Springside Inn's "The Point at Sand Beach" facility located at 2924 Sand Beach Rd., Auburn, N.Y. A copy of the reservation form is being sent as an addition to this newsletter.

Ice Cream Schedule



Syracuse Area:

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

October 13 - at 6:30 today Hafner's Garden Center, 7265 Buckley Rd, No Syracuse (inside seating)

Rochester Area:

Ice Cream nights will be the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month starting at 6 pm

Mc Alister's Deli 3020 South Winton Rd Henrietta & Read's 3130 E. Henrietta Rd

Binghamton Area:

We will continue meeting for ice cream on the first Monday of the month at Pop's Sugarshack on Conklin Ave, Binghamton, 6:30 PM, beginning April 4, 2016, as we have in past years. (Questions: Joe Lamphere)

Ithaca Area:

Ithaca, proudly "centrally isolated"! We are meeting 2016 monthly Ice Cream Night beginning in May 2016 on the **first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.** Please park behind the I.D. Booth Plumbing/Heating Supply Company parking lot on Cascadilla St. as we have in the past. (Questions: Gail Wagner, Ithaca-area rep, gwtr3red@gmail.com).

All ice cream meets will be held at

Purity Ice Cream - 700 Cascadilla St. /Meadow St. (Route 13), Ithaca, NY.

October 5

We now have three sponsors for the Midstate Miata

Club. They provide service and discounts to club members so pay them a visit



Mazda of West Ridge



Burdick
MAZDA



Marketplace



Midstate Miata Club Officers for 2016

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Midstate Miata Club Schedule of Events For the 2016 Driving Season

Event	Leader
Saturday, October 8 - Honesdale, PA Harvest & Heritage Festival	Lou & Carol Trelease
Sunday, October 16 - Cornell Ornithology Lab & Trail Walk	Gail Wagner & Local Reps Drive
Sunday, December 4 - Holiday Party	John & Elaine Piston

