

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thu
May 2 WPMC Monthly Teleconference Meeting

Sat
May 4 Run with the Miatas Cruise

Sat
May 11 Pi Meets WP Cruise

Sat
May 18 Bayernhof Mansion Cruise

Thu
Jun 6 WPMC Monthly Teleconference Meeting

Sat
Jun 15 Forks of Cheat Winery Cruise

Thu
Jun 27 WPMC Monthly Teleconference Meeting

Sun
Jun 30 Stan Hywett Mansion (Goodyear Tire Baron) Cruise

Sat
Jul 13 Pittsburgh Trolley Museum Cruise

Sat-Sun
Jul 20-21 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix

Sat-Sun
Jul 26-27 Niagara Falls Wine Cruise with Trillium Club

Thu
Aug 1 WPMC Monthly Teleconference Meeting
Sat or Sun
Aug 3 or 4 Harmony Museum Cruise

Sat
Aug 10 WPMC Picnic

Sat
Aug 24 Shockling Cruise

Sat or Sun
Sep 7 or 8 Golf Outing

Sat
Sep 14 Debenice Antique Music Works Cruise

Sun
Sep 29 Bigler Rocks Cruise

Sat-Sun
Oct 5-6 or 12-13 Zimliki Cruise

Sat or Sun
Oct 19 or 20 Halloween Cruise

Sat
Dec 7 WPMC Christmas Party

RUN WITH THE MIATAS BY LARRY PIETROPAOLI

Greetings, All! Pat & I are pleased to announce our first cruise in May to see the covered bridges, along with the wineries and breweries of Ashtabula County, Ohio. If you missed the club cruise to this area last year, we will try again with a slightly different focus. We will combine regional history, assorted bridge architecture, winery and brewery discoveries, and a leisurely spring drive through Ohio farm country. On May 4, the cruise will leave from Sheets at the Grove City Outlets (I 79 & PA Rt 208) at 8:00 AM. Lunch will be at the Chalet at Debonne Vineyards. Reservations: Larry Pietropaoli at larrydep@msn.com or 412-480-5980. Bring your cameras. Appropriate weather has been ordered. See you there.





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PI MEETS WP CRUISE (OR WP MEETS PI) BY DENNIS WEBER

WPMC has invited PIMC to participate in our May 11, 2013 cruise. Presque Isle Miata Club, located in Erie, PA, will join us in a fun day of shopping, driving, eating, and top down zooming in Sunny Central Pennsylvania.

We will meet under the large Premium Outlets Mall sign at 10:15 AM, Saturday May 11, 2013 in Grove City PA. The Outlet Mall is located at I-79 Exit 113 and Rt-208 in Butler County. The large sign faces I-79 on the East side of the mall. GPS 41.14099*N 80.15566*W. As usual, have the Miata's tank full and yours empty. We will meet inside the Food Court of the Mall facing the large sign for a quick cup of coffee and making new friends. At this time, the ladies will have the opportunity to spend the next three hours shopping or enjoying the cruise. The shoppers will have 130 stores to shop for spring fashions. The drivers will enjoy a challenging drive around Mercer and Lawrence Counties. Drivers meeting at 10:45AM and we will leave promptly at 11:00AM.

Around 2:00 PM, the smiling drivers will return to pick up the shoppers and stuff their trunks with shoes, shorts, and shirts followed by a 5 minute drive to Lunch/Dinner. During dinner, we have the opportunity to meet a great group of people who all share the same passion for driving Miatas. We hope this cruise will lead to many more joint events with Presque Isle Miata Club. Please RSVP by April 30, 2013 to Dennis or Ruthann Weber at 724-342-1296 or zoomtopless@live.com.

that his collection be displayed in his home rather than in a "warehouse" type of setting. As a result, patrons visiting the museum see not only the fascinating music machines, but have the opportunity to experience a most unusual house as well. The building itself provides guests with an interesting experience as they pass from room to room, at times through hidden doors and secret passages.

Almost the entire south side is glass giving fantastic views up and down the Allegheny River. Go to the website www.bayernhofmuseum.com to find out more. Admission is only \$10.00 per person. Please give me the money for admission on Sat., May 18, before we start the cruise. We are restricted to 16 people so please sign up as soon as possible.

Lunch will be at Michael A's Restaurant and then off to Oakmont Bakery for dessert but save room for ice cream after the Bayernhof Museum. Please go to the Michael A's website www.michaelarestaurant.com and let me know your lunch selection so I can call it in ahead.

Date & Time: Saturday, May 18, 9:00 AM - Leaving 9:15 AM

Place: Kings Restaurant in Sarver GPS - Kings Restaurant, 400 Buffalo Plaza, Sarver, PA 16055

Rsvp by May 3 to Bill at (H) 724-226-3461, (C) 412-335-3108 or boomer miata@comcast.net. Remember it is limited to 16 people so register as soon as possible to guarantee your spot.

BAYERNHOF MUSEUM CRUISE BY BILL & NANCY WILLIS

The former home of Mr. Charles B. Brown, III, the museum's founder, is a 19,000 square foot museum which houses a large collection of music boxes and other fascinating automatic musical instruments, as well as many other interesting items. Mr. Brown's wish was

MAY DEADLINE

THE DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE
MAY NEWSLETTER IS MAY 6, 2013





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TECH SESSION REPORT



BY SCOTT DAVIS

This year's Tech Session was quite a bit different than those of the past, in that the shop hosting the event has their focus on the preparation of race cars. They specialize in Miatas running in the Spec Miata (SM) classification now so popular in the SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) and in NASA (National Auto Sport Association) sanctioning bodies. The information presented by Jim Locke, and his technician Jeff, was very interesting and informative to those of us (myself included) following sports car racing.

Jim has been involved in all forms of motorsports during his 30+ years of work and described his experiences and how he became so interested in the Miata as a race car. The dedication that his shop has for his work was very evident in the talk he gave to our club. There were a lot of questions and answers provided during the session. Some of the many varied topics covered were:

- The differences between the 1.6 liter cars (first generation, or "NA" 1990-93), the 1.8 liter cars (first generation, or "NA" 1994-97), and the "99" cars (second generation, or "NB" 1999-05).
- The Mazda supplied suspension kit for all of the Spec Miata classes.
- Engines, gearboxes, and rear axles.
- Tires / wheels mandated and used by SCCA and NASA
- Different rules for each type of car including minimum weights and the allowed (or required) changes to the engine and drive train.
- ATE "Blue" and "Gold" brake fluid.
- Alignment settings.

- All of the work required to prep the Miata for race duty.
- A few good race car crash stories.

Jim and his staff all have nicknames for the race cars they work on in the shop such as Twiggy, Rocky, Sly, and Lucky. Having been involved in Autocrossing my Miata for several years with the North Hills Sports Car Club, I found myself imagining what it might be like racing the Spec Miata on a road course. It might be something my son and I would like to try in the future. We will certainly be looking up Jim's shop for some of the work needed.

Lunch following the Tech Session was at Bella Luna Restaurant in Murrysville. Many thanks to Larry Shockling for organizing this very enjoyable event, and to Joe & Linda Zimlik for identifying the opportunity.

2013 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

Well, I thought we were headed for better weather after the warm up in early March but we had a lot more winter. I was encouraged by the prediction of 70s on Sunday until I heard about the major storms in the middle of the country which could produce as much as two feet of snow. Let's hope the snow and cold are gone by May.

Our season got off to a great start with a very informative Tech Session. If you have an idea for a cruise please check with me to insure it's not duplicated. Sometime, great minds think alike. A few members have shown an interest in autocrossing. Check out www.nhscc.com/index.html along with the following article, provided by WPMC member Scott Davis, for more information.

NORTH HILLS SPORTS CAR AUTOCROSS

Autocross is the fastest growing form of motorsport today. The deftness of the driver and agility of the car are more

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important than pure speed. This sport is called Autocross or Solo. Imagine if you will, a track meet on wheels. You approach the starting line one at a time, helmet on, firmly belted into your car. You look onto a large parking lot that has been transformed into a complex serpentine course with the addition of a large number of traffic cones and white gypsum lines. Your challenge is to try to drive through this course as quickly as possible without hitting the cones. Each displaced cone adds two seconds to your score. Essentially it's you against the clock, figured to 1/1000th of a second. Even though this may sound difficult, it is great fun and leads to a great deal of satisfaction when you do it right. The secret to winning is usually taking the best "line" through the course while maintaining speed and smoothness, but sometimes slower is faster. During a run, which usually lasts about one minute, you will make thousands of driving decisions and really feel the car working under you. Autocross is a low budget, low pressure sport in which almost anyone can participate, usually in the same car they drive to work. It is a safe, fun way to experience the thrills of competition driving.

The autocross day starts with registration from 8:30 to 9:30am. Tech inspection closes at 10:00am. Timed runs (typically about 5-6 runs) follow the mandatory Drivers Meeting. The day usually lasts until late afternoon depending on the number of cars/drivers present. A helmet (see the website for helmet requirements) is needed to run and they do have a few loaners at the events. Regular events cost \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Yearly membership is \$20 (individual) \$30 (family). Almost all of the NHSCC autocross events are at the North Park Swimming Pool parking lot in the North Hills of Pittsburgh.

The Autocross dates this year are: April 14, April 28, May 12, May 26, Sept 8, Sept 22, Oct 6, and Oct 20. (Always check the website for updates and details.) Hopefully a few WPMC members will come out and participate, or even watch an event. They are a lot of fun.

Other Events that Might Catch your Interest:

Rollin Oldies - 23rd Annual Rod run Sunday May 26 -
Registration 8:00 AM/ Awards 2:00 PM
Place: Thermo Village Road, New Stanton Park, New Stanton, Pa
More Information: 724-834-7272 or 724-424-2534

Proceeds Benefit Special Olympics

Goodie bags to 1st 200 attendees, NSRA Inspection On-Site, DJ Ted, Chinese Auction, Food Vendors

For car cruises in the area, check out:
http://www.carcruises.com/cruise_list.asp?state=Pennsylvania&month_select=5

Starlite Car Cruise - <http://www.starlitecarcruise.com>
It's the largest car cruise in Pennsylvania and maybe the US and is located at North Way Christian Community, 12121 Perry Hwy, Wexford, Pa. Cruises are every Friday evening from 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM. The season starts May 24 and ends August 30. Many members have attended this event and really enjoyed it.

Look forward to seeing everyone on our first cruise May 4.

BOOMIN' ZOOMERS BY PRESIDENT LARRY PIETROPOLI

Pump up those tires, top off the gas & oil, and double check the inspection sticker. Don't forget the maps, snacks, and walkies. The time for short runs on clear days is over. Forget that groundhog, the 2013 cruisin' season is here. The March Newsletter listed a busy season with something to interest everyone. In fact, with the Auto Show, two board meetings and a tech session behind us, summer is officially started. Mark your calendars and save the dates. I see clear skies just over the horizon. (Weather optimism in Pittsburgh is required.)

If you are interested, you may want to check out miata.net for the following news items - Mazda has listed a number of factory personnel changes effective 4-1-13, factory production and sales results from February 2013, and Mazda 3rd quarter financial results.

Zoom, zoom zoom!





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