

Upcoming Events

Sat Dec 5 WPMC Annual Christmas Party

WPMC Annual Christmas Party by Linda Zimlik

The Annual Christmas Party will be held again at Courtyard Marriott in Monroeville. They have made some renovations and the room looks very nice. Our entertainment will be David Matheus, Magician. There will be Door Prizes and a gift exchange. The gift exchange table item can be something you made or purchased. It can be food, made or bought, Christmas crafts, wood craft or jewelry. Examples include Stain Glass item, wine bottle holder, Miata necklace, Miata key chain, cookie tray, candy, drawing, or wine. Hope that gives you some idea. Once you have RSVPd, please send Mary Edwards your check made out to WPMC for \$25 per person. Then please email me with the item you will be bringing for the gift table to bc1j8@comcast.net. The invitation is at the end of this newsletter.

Review of Red River Gorge Cruise by Joe & Linda Zimlik

This was a much anticipated trip to Kentucky to drive great roads. The group, Edwards, Starr and Zimlik were ready to go on September 11. The trip down to the Red River Gorge Inn included some great back roads. Once there, we took the skylift to the top of the Natural Bridge and enjoyed some great views.

Next morning, about 50 Miatas gathered in Miguel's parking lot. We met some great people who were true Miata lovers. I was surprised at the number of young women who participated in this event. First order of the day was Miatas at Red River Gorge Photo. It was taken

at Mill Creek Spillway. One of participants brought a drone to take photos and she got some great shots. Then we divided into three different groups, Zoomin, Sporty, and Leisure. We joined the Zoomin group.

Edwards & Joel decided on the Sporty. The Zoomin group was everything and more with lots of ear to ear grins. It was a blast. The second day we drove the Dragon Slayer. There were about 20 cars that day. At the top of the Dragon Slayer, we stopped at a store that sold everything to do with the Dragon Slayer. After making purchases and a group photo, we went zoomin down the Dragon Slayer, an awesome road. From there we went to Breaks Interstate Park, Grand Canyon of the South, and to State Line Lookout. The views were beautiful of the 1,650 foot Russell Fork Gorge where Virginia meets Kentucky. This ended our two day event. We said good-bye to new friends. We met a lot of wonderful people who share the love and appreciation for a little car that makes you feel exhilarated, happy, less stressful, and puts a smile on your face. The roads were some of the best we have ever driven at a pace we love.

Colebrookdale Railroad Cruise Review by Jill Clawson

Riding the Colebrookdale train in Boyertown, PA was an experience of beauty and elegance traveling with some of the most pleasant and satisfying companions imaginable. On a beautiful autumn Saturday as the leaves were just beginning to turn, nature's beauty was subdued by the vibrant beauty of artful stained glass throughout the many passenger cars. Intricately carved wood adorned all interiors and the spacious tables were brimming with a plethora of dietary delights. That's an old English teacher's description of riding a fancy train while being served a hog's mess of food and drink with the West Penn Miata Club ...always a group of the best companions on the road.

In addition to the champagne and other spirits, snack plates of varied cheese, crackers, grapes, salami and





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

assorted nuts, dessert choices of delicious cheese cake, pumpkin roll, and carrot cake awaited guests in the parlor car, the fanciest car in a diverse array of exquisite train cars. Passengers were also treated to drama as fellow travelers costumed in WWII era uniforms entertained throughout the ride. The outdoor car featured thirties and forties era music while the parlor car was graced by the talents of the Miata club's own esteemed guest keyboard master, Elizabeth LaRue on piano. Other Miata Club guests on the ride included PACE (Pennsylvania Central) members Matt Loizeaux, son Paul, and Mike Corey. Matt treated the West Penn drivers to a beautiful ride on Miata curvy rural roads and helped at times to navigate the caravan through the extreme traffic of eastern PA. The PACE guests also directed the West Penn group through the fascinating Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles, a visit to Repperts Candy Store (featuring chocolate and PA Dutch favorites) and a stop at Longacres Modern Dairy for ice cream. There may have been over 100 choices of flavors and dishes. This writer missed the accurate number as she was distracted by at least ten that were part of one banana boat.

West Penn members were intrigued by the fascinating discoveries at the most unique museum. The collection included artifacts of roadside culture along with innovative and rare vehicles that forged the nation. Through their mission statement visitors learned that the museum educates by highlighting the evolution of transportation and roadside culture. Equally impressive was the building of carriages and wagons. In short, if at any time an item transported people, it was represented. Joe Zimlik voiced his preference of the glass encased hearse wagon over the earlier slat-board model while Walt Dillen admired the wooden wheeled human-pulled fire company wagon. In short, members who missed this ride, should consider their own trips to this top of the line collection of vehicle history.

This beautiful fall ride was orchestrated and lead by the most capable and experienced Zimlik team of Linda and Joe, so naturally the Miata roads and meal sites were top of the line. Curvy winding roads boasted of the Miata driving thrill while the restaurants had both ambiance and delectable menu choices. For those who met for an overnight stay before the trip in Duncansville, the evening meal was enjoyed at the historic US Hotel & Tavern in Hollidaysburg, PA. Featuring an American tavern cuisine, the building captivated with its many unique rooms and decor.

On Friday when the ride actually began, lunch was enjoyed at the Blue Bird Inn at Cornwall, PA with deck, pub, and a wide variety of food choices - another beautiful structure with excellent food. The evening meal at Vincenzo's in Douglassville provided a vast array of choices from both Italian and American steakhouse options. Everyone seemed pleased by both the palate and the ambiance of the dining area.

On Saturday before the train ride, a light lunch was enjoyed in a quaint outdoor setting with a slight fall breeze and October themed decorations for added enjoyment. The final group meal, served to an already satiated auto club crowd, was at the Copperfield Inn at Lakeside in Limerick, PA. Featuring a warm, mission-style atmosphere overlooking a private lake, the Inn offered American fare and was known for its delicious crab cakes. This eatery also provided great food and a pleasant social atmosphere.

Sweep for the trip was beautifully handled by Mary and Bruce Edwards who not only fulfilled the duties of the position, but also selflessly placed themselves as a block at times to allow for eight other cars to pull onto the roads through what was occasionally very heavy, rapid eastern PA traffic. So ends the report on a flawlessly planned and navigated West Penn Miata Club weekend adventure to the east. It was a wonderful experience with delightful participants.

Addendum: On a personal note, to peak the curiosity of those who weren't along, I will share the details I didn't personally always fully understand:

- I do not know the story of Joe's pink underwear.
- I can't imagine why there were no Miatas at the Boyertown Museum.
- I don't know the details of Karen's toilet paper mishap.
- I also have no idea what happened in Douglasville although I heard several different accounts. Dennis Clawson says the Miata reaction was like mice at night scattering at the sight of a sudden light. Bruce Edwards says it was reminiscent of "Miracle on Ice" at the 1980 Winter Olympics with Miatas scattering all over the place in different directions. I also heard an allusion to a Chinese fire drill. Whatever happened, this I know, under intense circumstances, with nine cars in divergent places and all road signs indicating, "you can't drive here;" we were able to reconnect in the local WaWa parking lot, regroup, and safely be on our way. At the end of the day, that's pretty special. As Emerson said, "It's not the destination, but the journey!"





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

2026 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON

BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

The leaves are falling and so is the temperature. Along with these changes, our cruisin season has come to an end. Laurel Highlands is in full display of color, so if you get a chance take a ride to The Highlands, enjoy the fall display. We have one event left and that is the Christmas Party. Details are in this newsletter along with the invitation. There will be no November newsletter.

Thanks to the leaders who planned and led some great cruises. We appreciate your time and effort in coming up with roads to make our Miatas happy and put smiles on our faces.

Plans have started for next year. If you want to do a cruise next year, please let me know. I can help with planning along with a destination.

Zoom Zoommm Zoommm!

Mia t a Musings: Fall is still a Great Time to Cruise

By Joel Starr, President

While the formal cruising season is over, there is still plenty of time to get out there and cruise. With the weather cooling and the trees turning to their Autumn colors. bundling up and putting down the top to drive your favorite roads is a great opportunity. It is the time to scout cruises for next year or just have fun before we put up our cars for the winter.

The next scheduled event is the Christmas party. I hope to see you all there.





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WEST PENN MIATA CLUB

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Address goes here



WEST PENN MIATA CLUB ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



**Saturday – December 5, 2026
11:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

Social Hour 11:00 AM–11:30 PM

Lunch: 11:30 AM

Buffet: Parmesan Crusted Chicken & Lasagna

Place: Courtyard Marriott Monroeville

3962 William Penn Highway

Monroeville, Pa 15146

Entertainment: David Matheus – Magician

Send your check made out to “WPMC” for \$25.00 per person

To: Mary Edwards by November 30th

40 Sheraton Drive

Pittsburgh, Pa 15301

RSVP : bamedwards@gmail.com