

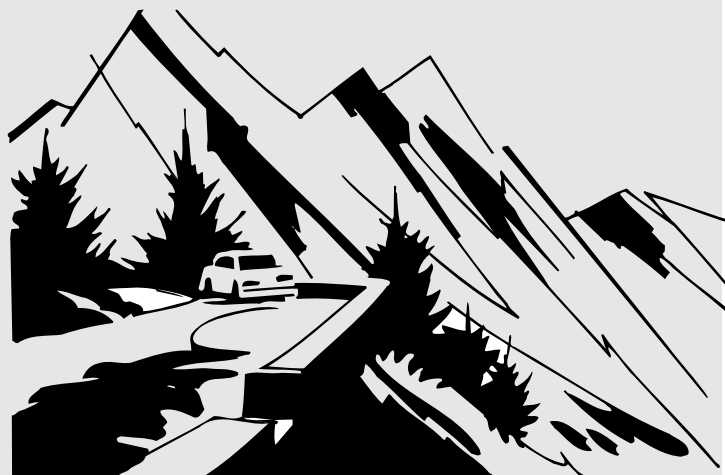
Upcoming Events

Sat Aug 16	Frontier Cruise
Sat Aug 23	WPMC Picnic
Sat Aug 30	Kissin' & Huggin' at the Drive-In
Sat-Mon Aug 30 - Sep 1	Topless in the Mountains XIV
Sat Sep 6 10:00 AM	Monthly Meeting at Baglier Motors and Wendell August Cruise
Sun Sep 21	Golf Outing
Sat Sep 27	Clark Gable Cruise
Sat-Sun Oct 18-19	Murder Mystery Dinner Train Cruise
Sat Dec 6	Christmas Party

Topless in the Mountains - XIV by Steve Lapp

This event is now closed as all available spots have been taken. WPMC members participating will be Steve Lapp, Cyndi Riley and Carey Linger, Paul and Lulu McCullough, Dave and Carole McLaughlin, Michael and JoAnn Sprague, Wally Swarmer, and Linda and Joe Zimliki.

FRONTIER CRUISE WITH THE TAYLORS AND THE FUSCALDOS



by clara Fuscaldo

Join us on Saturday, August 16 as we cruise the roads of Mon, Preston, and Marion Counties of West Virginia. We will be visiting 2 State Parks---Valley Falls (spectacular series of foaming falls which were created by the dark rushing waters of the Tygart Valley River) and Prickett's Fort (a re-creation of the original Prickett's Fort of 1774). We will be having a late lunch at Muriale's Restaurant in Fairmont. After lunch, we will be cruising some more looking for an ice cream shop before we head for home. Hope you can join us for an enjoyable day in Wild, Wonderful, West Virginia.

DATE AND TIME--SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 AT 9:30 AM (LEAVE AT 10 AM)

PLACE--SABRATON SHEETZ (OFF EXIT 4 ON INTERSTATE 68)

RSVP--BY AUGUST 13 AT (304) 624-4897 OR cjfuscaldo@ma.rr.com





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

West Penn Miata Club Picnic

by Jim & Janet Pfeiffer

The West Penn Miata Club picnic is here! The date is Saturday, August 23rd at the Maple Grove in White Oak Park in North Huntingdon, PA. The picnic will begin at 11:00 am and will last until you are ready to leave. Park closes at dusk.

As in the past we ask that you bring a covered dish to serve approximately 8 people. The club will provide the meat, beverage, tableware, cutlery, napkins, and condiments. The pavilion does not have electricity, so keep that in mind if you are planning to bring a hot dish.

Practice up on that Hula Hoop/Noodle game. We played it last year and everyone seemed to enjoy it. We also have a few other games that we think you will enjoy and that will be entertaining. In addition, we have some give-away gifts to handout, possibly something you can use on your next Miata cruise.

Directions to White Oak Park are as follows.

From the PA Turnpike - Exit at the Monroeville exit. Head toward Monroeville (Rt. 22 West). At the first intersection (about 1/4 mile) make a right onto Route 48 South. Stay on Route 48 South for approximately 5.6 miles until you come to Route 30 (big intersection). Make a left onto Route 30 East. Travel 1.7 miles then turn right at Sheetz into Carpenter's Lane. Stay on Carpenter's Lane for 1.4 miles to Park Entrance. Once you're in the park, drive one (1) mile to Maple Grove - Look for Miatas.

From Parkway East - Exit the Parkway (#376) at the Monroeville exit. There is a Monroeville Business 22 exit and that will get you there, but we find it easier to take the second exit which is marked "Monroeville". After existing from the "Monroeville" exit, at the intersection (almost immediately after exiting), cross over the highway to 48 South. Travel approximately 5.6 miles until you come to Route 30 (big intersection) and make a left onto Route 30 East. Travel 1.7 miles then turn right at Sheetz into Carpenter's Lane. Follow above direction to park entrance and Maple Grove.

From Route 48 North - Access to the park via McClintock Road (off Route 48) has been closed due to moving and reconstruction of the one-way bridge. Your best bet is to take 48 North to the Route 30 intersection. Make a right at that intersection then travel 1.7 miles, turn right at Sheetz into Carpenter's Lane. Follow above direction to park entrance and Maple Grove. If you're comfortable, follow the detour signs posted and it will get you to the park entrance from that direction. Look for Maple Grove.

From Route 22 West - Turn left into Carpenter's Lane at Sheetz in North Huntingdon. Follow above directions to park entrance and Maple Grove.

We set August 16 as the deadline to sign up for the picnic. We will need to know how many people are coming so we can buy the food. If you know what covered dish you will be bringing, please let me know, so that we don't have too much of the same thing. Again, circle the date and call or email so that we can save a space for you and we will see you on August 23rd.

Contact: Jim Pfeiffer - 724-468-8435 (home) 724-493-5248 (cell) or pjentre@comcast.net.

Wendell August Cruise - Sept 6

By John & Pat Hutten

Please join Pat and I as we host our cruise on September 6th! We'll be starting at Baglier Mazda in Butler after the board meeting concludes. Our trip will have us winding our way North and then East to Wendell August Forge in Grove City. In the interest of time (and saving some spending money as you'll see later in this article) - we'll be packing our own "picnic lunches" for this trip. So bring your favorite road meal and beverages to re-fuel yourselves when we arrive at the Forge. For those of you not familiar with Wendell August - the Grove City location is home to the oldest and largest forge in the nation. In addition to marveling at the handcrafted works in their spacious store - we will be taking a tour of their operations and witnessing first-hand how these beautiful pieces are manufactured. This should prove to be an interesting stop for both the guys and gals! Bring your Christmas shopping lists as you will no doubt want to make some adjustments to it and get some shopping

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done.

BUT WAIT - THERE'S MORE! After we've finished our lunches, tour (and shopping - which is why you'll want some bucks in your pocket!), we'll head west towards I-79 and stop at the Slovak Folk Craft Shop just east of the interchange to conclude our cruise. Again - another "guys and dolls" type of attraction, the Slovak Folk Craft shop features a 17 foot wide, 6 foot deep, and 8 foot tall hand chip-carved village with 82 moving figures - in addition to all the "pretty stuff" the ladies will drool over! Plan to arrive at Baglier Mazda at 10:15 AM and we'll be hitting the trail at 10:45 AM after our pre-cruise briefing. Drop me an email at jt@hutten.us to let us know you're coming or for more information.

If you aren't yet convinced that this is a "must attend" type of cruise, you can see what you are going to regret missing by visiting the following websites. If you're already "sold" on this - skip the cyber-tour and enjoy the adventure of seeing them first "in-person."

Wendell August: <http://www.wendellaugust.com/>
Slovak Folk Crafts: <http://www.slovakfolkcrafts.com/>

2008 Miata Golf Outing by Harry Harbaugh

Come join us for a fun day of playing golf at Ligonier Country Club. All levels of play are welcome. Anyone that would like to make the event & not golf are welcome to do a little tour of downtown Ligonier & also do some shopping. We will be eating at Ligonier Golf Course around 5:00 pm. The food is excellent. This event is for fun.

Date & Tee Time: September 21, 2008 at 1:00 PM
Place: Ligonier Country Club
Cost: \$40
Dinner: 5:30 pm
Contact: Harry Harbaugh at h.harbaugh@comast.net
724-837-8361 or 724-925-8820

Directions:

From Greensburg:

Take Route 30 through Latrobe to Ligonier. Go to the second red light below Fort Ligonier and make a right turn over a bridge onto Route 711 South for 3.1 miles. We are the second golf course (Laurel Valley is first) located on the left side of the road. When you see a white "Ligonier Country Club" sign make a left. Go approximately 1/4 mile down that road and make another left into the club. There will be another sign indicating where you should turn. Follow that road into the parking area.

From Turnpike:

You will exit at Exit #91 (old Donegal Exit #9). From the exit make a left. Go 1/4 mile and make another left onto Route 711 North. You will then go approximately ten miles. We are located on the right hand side of the road. There will be a "Ligonier Country Club" sign indicating where you should turn. (If you should by chance miss the turn, you immediately see the golf course on your right.) Follow that road into the parking area.

CLARK GABLE CRUISE

By John Whitmire

Everybody in western PA knows that Indiana is the home of Jimmy Stewart, but how many of you know that Clark Gable was born and raised just west of the Ohio River in Cadiz, OH! We didn't until a couple of years ago, and as soon as we found out, Shar and I started thinking about planning a cruise to his home and museum.

That time has come, and we hope you will join us for a fun day of driving in southwestern PA/ northern WV/ and western OH that will get us to Cadiz about noon, where we will eat at a very unique little restaurant, and then visit Gable's boyhood home that has been converted into a museum. We will return by a totally different route that will get us back by middle to late afternoon. While this will be a fairly long cruise, the roads we have selected are great Miata roads through rural areas with lots of curves, hills, great scenery, and a minimum of towns and interruptions. It should be a fun ride, see you then!

Date & Time: September 27th- Leave at 9:00 AM

Place: I-79 Mazda

RSVP: By Sep. 24th to jwhitmire@astorino.com or (412) 262-1813





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7th ANNUAL FALL FOLIAGE TRAIN CRUISE WALKERSVILLE SOUTHERN RAILROAD MURDER MYSTERY DINNER TRAIN



BY JOE & LINDA ZIMLIKI

The Walkersville Southern Railroad was built in 1869 as part of the Pennsylvania Railroad. In 1972, it came under hard times and the bridge the train traveled between Walkersville and Frederick was washed away. The line was sold and in 1991 work was started to clear debris. The bridge was rebuilt in 1995 and the train chugged the rails again after 20 years.

You will be able to visit a turn of century train station and freight house. You'll also ride on a vintage 1920's passenger car or flatcar. Our treasurer, Bill McCullough, is a volunteer at the Walkersville Southern and he suggested this particular train for this year. Bill is an engineer for the train and originally he was going to be our engineer but decided he would miss out on the fun so he will join us for the MURDER MYSTERY DINNER RIDE. Dinner will be provided with tea or coffee or you can bring your own beverage. Since it is near Halloween, costumes are part of the Murder Mystery Ride. Costumes are optional and can be as much as you like ranging from full costume to just a hat or scarf. We are doing October 18th because that is Maryland's fall foliage time.

Our roads to the train will be twisty and curvy. Did you expect anything less? I'm placing this article in the newsletter early because even though it hasn't been posted yet, half of the slots are filled. I wanted to give the rest of the club members an opportunity to sign up for the train.

There is a 16 car limit. We will be staying at the Best Western in Frederick, MD. Cost is \$74 per room. I have reserved King, Junior Suite and 2 Doubles for the same price. Breakfast is included - pastries, cereals, waffles & juices. My son and daughter-in-law stay at this hotel when they go to Frederick for Marathon Races. Please email or call if you would like to join us. I will verify there is still space and give you the hotel contact information. If you have told me you will be going please contact me to verify you are on the list. We are still working out the details so more will follow but here's what we have at the moment:

Dates: Sat & Sun Oct 18 & 19

Meeting Time and Place: 8:00 AM at Greengate Commons on Rt 30 in Greensburg next to Denny's

Train Ride & Dinner Cost: \$40 per person (Karen says food is good)

Note: This cruise is full. To be placed on a waiting list, please contact Linda Zimliki at lzimliki@westpennmiataclub.com or 724-327-1762.

2008 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON

BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

We have had some really great cruises this year. We still have 3 more months of zooming to do. There has been a change in the schedule. McPherson Surprise Cruise on Sat Sept 20 has been cancelled due to Doug's work schedule & family obligations. We will be looking for one of his great cruises next year. We have a replacement event for Sunday Sept 21. A Miata Golf Outing has been added to the schedule. Details are in this newsletter. I'm still waiting for details on the Monroeville Mazda Event Sept 13.

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Leaders of the cruises ask for members to contact them if you plan on attending their cruise. It helps with planning of their cruise. The restaurant needs to know the number coming. Leaders also need to know if you have to cancel.

You are on their list & if you don't cancel, they are waiting for you to arrive. Most cruises have a time schedule to keep. The leaders would appreciate consideration in a RSVP or cancellation notice. It makes one less thing the leaders have to deal with on day of their cruise. I thank you, along with the leaders, for your cooperation.

MIATA WORLD II

BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

MWII has approximately 300 cars(couples) listed on the website. It is not a true reflection of the registered number.

There are people who do not want their names on the website. As of July 18, the hotel rooms reserved are nearing a sellout. There are 66 Miata Clubs represented according to the posting on the website.

Some people have asked me what \$300 includes. It is still not completely definite. It will change with more vendors & sponsorship. This is what I know as of right now.

- non-stop opportunities for fun
- a chance to win a unique, one-of-a-kind, 20th Anniversary MX-5
- big reception on Friday with food, dinner on Saturday and Sunday night banquet (the costs of these exceed \$300 per person)
- access to all driving events including track events, fun runs, and parades
- access to at least three social hours, probably four, but these are still in the planning stages
- fabulous door prizes
- a chance to win a unique, one-of-a-kind, 20th Anniversary MX-5
- goody bags
- collector t-shirt
- access to a minimum of 30,000 sq feet of air conditioned exhibit space for vendors (you must have event registration badge to get to the vendor alley)
- a chance to win a unique, one-of-a-kind, 20th Anniversary MX-5
- full access to experience track events in a non-intimidating venue
- full access to experience track events without having to deal with novices
- unlimited (time permitting) access to track events
- rallies with prizes awarded

- multiple photo opportunities
- the priceless opportunity for the camaraderie of your fellow Miata lovers

TRACK EVENTS

• Track events are for FUN. All may run as much as you want, with no set time, and in consideration of others wanting to run as well.

• You will get in line, run the track, and go to the next event, or run the track again (after getting back in line), for as long as the event is open.

• The currently planned events include:

* Autocross - Autocross will be timed and awards will be given to the best times in a number of classes. Opportunities for all skills levels, including newbies, will be provided.

* Parade and Hot laps on the Infield Road Course- the infield road course will be set up much like a giant autocross.

You will not be driving wheel-to-wheel, but at your own pace. Novices will not be intimidated by experienced drivers.

* Parade and Hot laps on the High Bank Oval - You will have a chance to drive the TMS quad-oval. The format of that specific event is still being planned, but you will have the opportunity to use the speed with which you are comfortable.

2. Is there any required equipment?

• Helmets ARE required for all events (loaners are available on site). You may use your own as long as the helmet meets SCCA requirements which will be published prior to the event.

• You will need close toed shoes (no open shoes).

• Roll Bars are NOT required for any event.

• Anyone, of any skill level, may run any/all of the events. You will be grouped according to your comfort level.

NEW CANCELLATION POLICY

To cancel a registration and receive a refund, please send a written cancellation request to: 6240 Lake Worth Blvd., Ft. Worth, TX 76135. All refund requests must be received least ninety (90) days before the event. Transaction and processing fees, along with any other costs associated with your registration will be retained and not be included in the refunded amount. The retained amount could vary. Depending on which credit card you use, \$10-12. Other amounts would depend on when you ask for your refund. You would be responsible for any costs I have to pay in advance and can't get back. With the 90 day prior deadline, this shouldn't be a problem.

Hope this answers your questions. Please let me know if you sign up.





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Mountains and Wine Cruise Report by Ray and Fran Robb

The weather prediction for Saturday, July 12, was hot and dry! The hot we could do without but the dry was almost unheard of for a Miata Cruise this year. Linda and Joe Zimliki showed their organizational flare from the moment we entered the start point. Linda was directing the line up of cars to allow the twenty-two Miatas to get off to a fine start. (Although she did allow four red cars to be in a row.)

All the Miatas got out of the shopping center together and, after a short stint on Route 22, we were off into the hinterlands. Almost immediately, we accidentally picked up a police escort who pulled over as soon as he saw all those Miatas in his mirror. The roads were excellent with some stretches where we could really test the cornering ability of our agile beasts. We were in the front of the line and still pulled some great g-forces in our car. We can only imagine how the rear of the line was whipping around. The roads were some of the best Miata-friendly trails we have encountered.

After about two hours of twisting back country roads, we found ourselves entering Blairsville where we stopped at Pie Cucina for lunch. Even here, Linda's organizational skills were evident as the lunches were pre-ordered down to the drinks with even the bills totaled and ready to pay (including tip). The food proved excellent with many members hoping to return there at some later date. With lunch finished, we motored out of Blairsville a short distance to the first winery, Walnut Hill Winery, where the wine tasting began. They had special mini-bottles of wine for each person with a souvenir label on it commemorating our cruise.

Soon we were back into our cars and off to the next winery called Raspberry Acres Winery for more wine tasting. Linda had some cheese for snacks to blend with the wine. She also produced a cake to celebrate Treasurer Bill McCullough's birthday. The winery owners provided complimentary wine glasses for sipping their vino. They also had a border collie who entertained the club members by practically crawling in their laps until you would pet him.

After this last winery, we cruised down the road until we arrived for our mandatory ice cream fix, a Dairy Queen with a big parking lot just made for a passel of Miatas. In fact, there was already a Miata in the lot when we arrived and the owners were surprised to see so many pulling into the lot. I'm sure someone produced a card to entice them to join the club. Our hats are off to Linda and Joe for the effort they must have expended to create such a wonderful event. Everybody was happy - happy - happy!

In, Out, & About East Taylor Co, WV By Bob & Dorothy Wachter

Twelve Miatas left the Wal-Mart parking lot in Morgantown, WV on Saturday July 26 for a ride thru West Virginia on Route 119. Many of the roads were tree-lined and there was a cool breeze. Along the way were many beautiful homes, farmland, and many people waving at us.

We followed Route 119 into the historic town of Grafton where we stopped and got out to see an old church on Main St. where there is a Mother's Day Shrine that commemorates the first celebration on Mother's Day. After having our picture taken at the Shrine, we traveled down the road to the Grafton National Cemetery. Our next stop was the Tygart Dam and then on to lunch at the Tygart Lake Lodge where we had a magnificent view of the lake. Before leaving the Lodge we sang "Happy Birthday" to Karen McMahan.

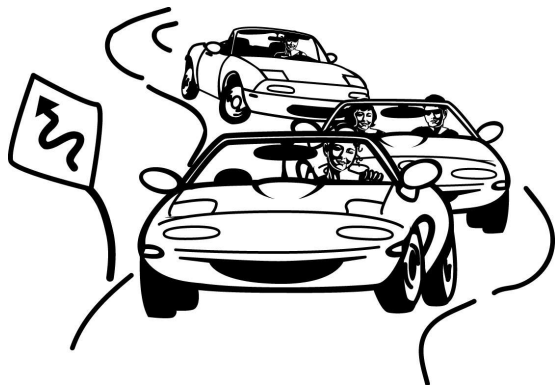
After lunch we headed back on Route 50 traveling on some country roads and rickety bridges. Our ice cream stop was at a Dairy Queen in Reedsville. After relaxing and eating our ice cream, everyone started on their journey home. Thank you Paul and Colette Knoll for a well planned and enjoyable day.





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Meet 'n/Drive'n Tour Report



by Laverne Skidmore

What a beautiful day we had for this cruise! About 18 cars met at Bilco Motors in Wexford on August 2. At 10AM, we set out for a perfect series of winding Miata roads. Heading west, we traveled through parts of Sewickley and into the countryside. We had curves, hairpin turns, and a lot of beautiful farmlands to see as we made our way to McConnell's Mills State Park. After passing over a covered bridge, we drove through the always impressive rock formations in that area. After more winding roads, we arrived in Portersville for a short business meeting and delicious lunch at Brown's Country Kitchen. Then we were back on the road for more of the perfect cruising conditions. And of course, a stop at the Dairy Queen in Cranberry completed the trip. Thanks to Bill & Juliette Flasche's careful planning, we had another excellent Miata adventure!

September Deadline

The deadline for articles for the September newsletter is September 8, 2008

Journeys with John



by President John Whitmire

Hard to believe it is already August! Summer is flying by, and we have already had many fun cruises, participated in the Vintage Gran Prix, and have bunches of good things still to come! I suppose all good things have to have a bit of a down side. We have actually had more events, and folks who have wanted to lead events, than we have had weekends to do them.

A few years ago we also suffered this problem of too much of a good thing! It was then that the Board established the rule that the club would only host one event per weekend and that all events would be coordinated through an Events Coordinator. The precipitating issue was that in a couple of instances, two events were scheduled on the same weekend, attendance at each of the events was diluted, and feelings were hurt because event leaders put a lot of time and effort into planning the event and then no one showed up! We need to work to see that this situation does not happen again. It is important therefore, if you want to plan an event, please coordinate and schedule through Linda Zimliki, our Events Coordinator. We understand that there will be weekends when there are competing events, and will note those in the Crusin and Zoomin Season portion on the newsletter, but the front page "Upcoming Events" will only list the one scheduled event for any given weekend.

Hope to see you at our next cruise!





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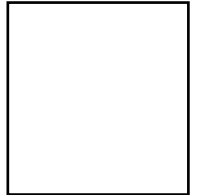
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