

## Upcoming Events

Sat Aug 27	WPMC Picnic
Sat Sep 10	Micro Brewery Cruise
Sun Sep 18	Flight 93 Memorial Cruise
Sat-Sun Oct 8-9	Zimliki Cruise
Sat Dec 3	WPMC Christmas Party

## WPMC Annual Picnic by Larry Pietropaoli

**I**t is time. Food must be ordered. We can't wait much longer. The reservation cutoff is August 22. Food, games, brain teaser competitions, prizes, more food, old & new friends - make a reservation now and mark your calendar.

The 2016 WPMC annual picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, August 27, 2016 at the Maple Grove Pavilion in White Oak Park from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Reservations are required and your "signature dish" or your "world famous" food contribution will be appreciated by all (while great in theory, and "all desserts card" will not fill the food pyramid). As always, the club will provide burgers, dogs, soft drinks, condiments, and plates. Requested donated categories are: snacks, salads, veggie dishes, and covered dish. Incredibly, we are currently light on Snacks, Appetizers & Covered dishes. Please RSVP with your food selection by August 22 to [larrydep@msn.com](mailto:larrydep@msn.com) - Price: N/C, just a happy face.

**Directions to White Oak Park:** From Pittsburgh via Parkway East: exit at Forrest Hills onto Ardmore Boulevard (Rt 30 E) to Carpenter's Lane (at Sheetz), turn right on

Carpenter's Lane 1.4 mile to park entrance on right, then find Maple Grove Pavilion on right. See you there!

## Microbrewery and Distillery Cruise aka The Booze Cruise



by Jerry and Candy Spehar

**J**oin us on September 10th for a unique booze cruise. We have visited many different wineries around the region, but this is the first time our group will visit a craft brewery and also make a separate stop at a boutique distillery. The microbrewery, Auroch's Brewing, is a short distance away from our meeting point. Auroch's is the only area producer of gluten free beer and the ownership is passionate about this endeavor. We will be met by one of the owners, Doug, who will give us a tour and discuss the brewing process. It is another short drive to the distillery, McLaughlin's, which is particularly interesting. It is currently producing vodka, whiskey, moonshine, and its biggest seller, bourbon. They even make their own wooden casks for the bourbon on site. The owner, Kim, will give us a tour and talk to us about the manufacturing process. Samples are available for tasting and purchase. From there we will head out for curvy roads and lunch at a restaurant that we have visited on past cruises. They have great food and have demonstrated the ability to handle a crowd arriving at the same time. After lunch we'll get our customary frozen treat at a place the club has not visited previously.

**Date and Time:** Saturday, September 10, 2016. Driver's meeting at 9:15; we will leave promptly at 9:30.

**Cruise Limit:** Due to parking restrictions, we must limit this cruise to a total of 12 cars.

**Cruise Type:** Sporty

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**Meeting Place:** Sheetz parking lot, located at the intersection of Mt Nebo road and Interstate 79, adjacent to exit 68.

**RSVP:** By September 3, 2016 to speedo48@comcast.net or call 724-869-0410

## Flight 93 Memorial Cruise by Ray & Barb McBride

**D**o you know how many heroes there were on flight 93 that crashed into the ground on September 11, 2001, near Shanksville, PA? Our Cruise will take you to the 9/11 Memorial where you will find out everything you'd want to know about that tragic event. This was such an inspirational experience for my husband and I on our first visit, just realizing that these people gave their lives, to save our CAPITOL OF THE UNITED STATES. I hope you can join us for our cruise on Sunday, September 18, 2016, which will take us through the Laurel Highlands to the Flight 93 Memorial. There is a wonderful visitors center with videos, phone calls that were made by the passengers that fateful day, and pictures and descriptions of the heroes. You then drive another mile to the actual site, where there is a walkway leading to the wall with the names of the passengers. Along the walkway there are stations where you can dial a number on your cell phone, which describes what you are observing at that particular area.

**P**rior to our visit to the Memorial, we will have brunch at the Famous Oak Hurst Tea Room. The cruise will be scheduled to allow approximately one and a half hours for the visit to the Memorial. After the visit to the Memorial we will return to Somerset for ice cream and the cruise will end at that point.

**Date and Time:** Sunday, September 18, 2016 - Meet at 9:00 AM. Leave at 9:30 AM.

**Meeting Place:** Sheetz #327 2100 Mossdale Bld. Monroeville PA. At the intersection of route 48 and 130

**Cruise Type:** Sporty

**Cost:** Brunch \$11.95 per person

**RSVP:** By September 5, 2016 to raynbarb@comcast.net or cell phone- 412-607-8078. (We will be away from September 6 to September 14, 2016, so please respond prior to that date.)

## Raspberry Acres Winery Cruise Review by Bill Flasche

**O**n June 25th, Richard and Leeanne Ryba led 12 Miatas on a pleasant cruise to the Raspberry Acres Winery where we sampled some really good wines and had a delicious luncheon. Although the wine did not affect our driving, it did affect my memory about writing this review. It did not, HOWEVER, affect my memory about a fun top down day cruising through the countryside.

**T**he winery was situated next to a fairly large pond, which made for a very nice and relaxing luncheon buffet. After lunch it was hard to decide which wine to take home, but after a thoughtful debate a decision was finally mediated. Juliette's choice has already been enjoyed and mine will become history shortly (a good wine needs to be enjoyed with compassion – not comprised with fireworks ie. 4th of July). The ice cream finale provided the necessary calories to get us home.

**A** good day, a good cruise, a good lunch, some good wine all topped off with some good ice cream – what else can you ask for?

## Review of the Penn Alps Cruise by Ray & Barb McBride

**C**lub Members who were unable to attend the cruise on July 9, through and around the Laurel Highlands, missed a marvelous day. Although I complained to

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my husband about having to get up so early on a Saturday, as we met at 8AM for the cruise, there were no further complaints from anyone throughout the day. Fifteen cars left Sheetz Gas Station, in Irwin, at 8:30 AM to start our excursion. We passed by the beautiful mountain ridges of Fayette and Somerset Counties where there were numerous Wind Turbines. Our first stop was the King's Covered Bridge which spans Laurel Hill Creek and was built in the early 1800's. Naturally it was a photo opportunity. At one point we crossed into Addison County, Maryland, but then crossed back into PA.

Our next stop was the Springs Market and Springs Country Store in Springs, PA and many of us purchased fresh glazed donuts, YUM! There were local farmers and craftsmen providing fresh picked produce, home baked goodies, antiques, and many plants and flower baskets. We spent about 45 minutes browsing and then headed to Grantsville for a buffet lunch at the Penn Alps Restaurant. The buffet had a large selection of salads, hot foods, rolls, and many desserts. Following lunch we were able to walk around the Spruce Forest Artisan Village, which was just outside the restaurant. There were thirteen restored cabins where people were making baskets, rugs (made on a loom), pottery, etc. The artists showcase and sell their work and visitors can interact with them inside the cabins/studios. There was also a one room schoolhouse where children and adults could get the feel of a classroom from years ago. Lastly, there was the Casselman Bridge, which is currently under repair, and was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1964. The bridge is part of the Casselman River Bridge State Park. Our last stop was ICE CREAM at Shepherd's Farm Ice Cream Shoppe, which was the ending of a perfect day, perfect weather, and perfect information and Map Sheets. Thank you to Jack Bartek and Nancy Galvin for a wonderful first cruise.

## Wendell August Forge Cruise Review by MaryAnn and Robert Coon

On Sunday, July 24th at 9:30, thirteen shiny Miatas started out from Wexford Pennsylvania for a fun filled day of both leisurely and sporty roads, winding our way to two destinations for that day. With plentiful

sunshine, and low humidity, it made for pleasant motoring to Wendell August Forge in Grove City. After that, it was on to North Country Brewing Company in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania for lunch. Then after more winding roads, the club would complete the day with the drivers and passengers headed back to Evans City with a final stop at Zimmerman's Ice Cream on Main Street.

When we arrived at Wendell August Forge, we were greeted and taken into the new store that is located across from the Grove City Outlets entrance. The original store and forge, which was located in Grove City by the college, was destroyed in a fire in March of 2010. This new flagship store, with its modern interior and exterior, is updated and spacious, and opened in October of 2013. There was some concern that the store might not ever open again, but fortunately they were able to do so. It would have been unfortunate if it hadn't, considering the long history of the forge, because it is the oldest and largest in America. Wendell August Forge was originally founded in Brockway, Pennsylvania by Wendell McMinn August who was thirty eight years old and active in the coal industry at the time.

While on the tour of the factory, one of the many interesting facts that we learned about the production of the metal work is that it is an eight step process for each one of the pieces, whether the material used is pewter, sterling silver, or other metals. They also make jewelry there as well.

After an exhilarating drive on fabulous winding roads to Slippery Rock, we arrived at North Country Brewing Company for a wonderful lunch, and great company with our Miata club members. This rustic country spot serves craft beers and homemade root beer along with the usual (but delicious!) pub fare of salads, sandwiches, and burgers. This microbrewery and restaurant was started in 1998 by Jodi and Bob McCafferty in an old storefront with recycled on site materials and local hardwoods. The place opened in 2005, and the yearly brew fests they host have helped raise over \$50,000 for Slippery Rock Development to help maintain Slippery Rock's appearance and upkeep. This, along with other local business owners, is a great way to give back to the community. We would like to say "thank you" again to Ann and Steve Kisk and their son for a great cruise, ordering great weather, having great plans, and for a great time!





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## Wright Patterson Air Force Museum Cruise Review

by Patty Pietropaoli

**T**hank you to Mike and Sandy Butler for a busy and fun weekend cruise to the Buckeye state. Nine Miatas left Oakdale on July 29th, right on schedule per Mike's itinerary. We traveled mainly route 22 to our destination in Dayton to visit the Wright Patterson Air Force Museum. It was agreed by all the two lane road of route 22 was enjoyable with the beautiful scenery of OH and a few hills just for our Miatas. The weather gods were good to us since it only rained for about an hour late on Friday afternoon. It was the only time it was tops up for the weekend. Mike made sure there were ample rest stops along the way. Lunch on Friday was in Lancaster, OH at Todds Mountain View Inn. We still do not know where the mountain was but the food was good and service was quick. After another two hours of driving route 22 we arrived in Xenia, OH at Ceasar Creek Vineyards. Of course we had to get some wine for the weekend. We arrived at our hotel, Holiday Inn Express in Dayton, around 6:00 with enough time to unpack and get ready for dinner at the Chop House. This restaurant was right next door so a very easy walk. Once we got back to the hotel most of us went to bed after driving most of the day and a good dinner. There were a few hardy souls who gathered in the lobby to socialize into the later hours.

Saturday morning was a short drive to the museum where we were able to see four buildings of aviation history. Wright Patterson Air Force Museum is the oldest and largest aviation museum in the world. Our schedule allowed 4+ hours to tour this museum but it is so large we could not see everything. Each of us had an area we wanted to see the most so all dispersed as soon as we got there. The fourth building opened just six weeks earlier and featured some old Air Force Ones. We were able to board these planes and saw how our presidents traveled. The newest one was from John F. Kennedy's days as president. We saw where Lyndon Johnson took the oath of office. With 360 airplanes, vehicles, and missiles to see it was hard to take in everything in one afternoon.

After the museum, Mike scheduled an ice cream stop at Graeter's Ice Cream Shop in Dayton. We all agreed this ice cream was worth getting again. The good news is there is another Graeter's in Wexford PA, so this will definitely be a stop on one of our cruises in the future.

Dinner on Saturday was at the Rusty Bucket, a short drive from our hotel. Where Friday's dinner was a wine and steak night, the Rusty Bucket was a beer and pub food dinner. Mike and Sandy did a great job picking the restaurants for the weekend, and we had quite a variety. Food and service was good for both evenings.

Sunday morning we left at 9:00 for the drive back to Pittsburgh. Holiday Inn Express was a good choice. The rooms were clean and a hot breakfast buffet was included each morning. Again Mike had everything planned for the trip back home with a rest stop, lunch at Cherry Street Pub in Lancaster and of course another ice cream stop.

Thank you again to Mike and Sandy Butler for a busy and fun weekend in the Buckeye state. Planning a day cruise is a job in itself. To do a full weekend is a real challenge and Mike and Sandy rose to the occasion. Of course, I should have known it was going to be a party weekend with the Butlers in charge.

### Cruise Types

**LEISURE - A NICE DRIVE WHERE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE COUNTRY SIDE - COMBINATION OF BELOW SPEED LIMIT & AT SPEED LIMIT**

**SPORTY - A SPEEDIER RIDE SO YOU CAN ENJOY THOSE CURVES - AT SPEED LIMIT**

**ZOOMIN - YOUR MIATA WILL BE MOVIN THROUGH A LOT OF CURVES WITH SPIRITED DRIVING**





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## Cruise in Connecticut Review



by Joe & Linda Zimlik

**O**n Wednesday, July 13 the Tuites, Galvin/Bartek, Bells, and Zimlikis left for our Connecticut adventure. It started with dinner that night. “The Place” restaurant was a unique outdoor place. It’s on the outskirts of woods with a huge wood burning grill. They served any kind of seafood you could want. It s a very basic place. You put your “rump on a stump”. That is correct - you sit on a tree stump. You can bring your own sides, drinks (wine & liquor included), and table set ups.

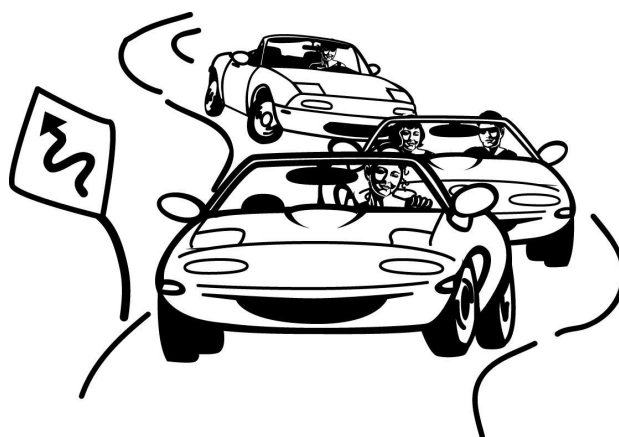
I brought paper tablecloth, plastic plates, plastic wine glasses, and the wine. Other people in the restaurant bought coolers with side dishes. Then we went to see the sound and called it a night.

**T**hursday, we explored the coastline and the USS Nautilus. We saw the town of Mystic where movies have been made, Katherine Hepburn’s house, some lighthouses (from a distance), found a Miata road, ate Connecticut’s best ice cream and ate at the birthplace of the hamburger ( another unique place).

**F**riday, we took a ride in the western half of Connecticut and saw a couple of waterfalls and covered bridges. Late afternoon we ended up at Lime Rock Racetrack. Joe & I watched Nancy & Jack do NMC’s version of Autocross. It was a go kart course where they were allowed to drive at any speed around the course without cones. Joe wishes he had signed up for it. Then the big moment, laps around Lime Rock Racetrack. They did let us get up some speed, 65 -70. The evening ended with a great BBQ.

Saturday, the group headed to the eastern half of the state. We drove some Miata roads, toured Gillette Castle, had lunch by the water in Essex, and toured Mark Twain’s house. In the evening we attended the closing banquet. Our adventure over, everyone headed home on Sunday.

## 2016 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON



BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

**C**ruises so far have been sunny with just a touch of rain, temperatures sizzling, and our Miatas zoomin. We have had some great cruises, and you don’t want to miss those remaining. Our annual WPMC picnic is the end of the month. The deadline to RSVP is August 22. Larry needs your reply by then so he can order the food. There will be games, prizes, door prizes, and good times spent with fellow Miata lovers. More information is in the newsletter.

If you have an idea for doing a cruise next year, please pass it by me. There may be someone else who had the same great idea or it’s been done already. We need people to volunteer to lead a cruise next year. Let me know if you would like to do one.

Zoom Zoomm Zoommm!





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## Top Down Adventures by President Mike Butler

**S**ummer 2016 is turning out to be a hot and humid one with temperatures being close to or above the 90 degree mark almost every day, and we still have the dog days of August! I'm not complaining because we've been able to have our tops down for many of our cruises and leisurely drives – and that's what this club is all about – Top Down Adventures!

**W**e had a full month of adventures in July with three cruises and a successful turn-out at the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix; where we had approximately 60 Miatas participate. With the Mazda Miata as the "showcase" car, it was an added bonus to be able to participate in the parade and take the lap around the course as well as through some of the city streets of Pittsburgh. I hope many of you were able to join in the fun with the camaraderie of our members.

**C**oming up in August, we'll be having our annual WPMC picnic. Hopefully many of you will be able to attend and enjoy the delicious food and exciting games. As always, it's a nice way to spend the afternoon relaxing, getting together, and conversing with some of our club members.

**I**wanted to let our members know about some of the features of our WPMC website. If you haven't already done so, please be sure to check out the event photos in the WPMC website. It's a great way to look back on cruises you attended and reminisce about the good times or see what you missed if you weren't able to attend. Also within our website, is the Forum section. The Forum is a great way to communicate with other members about upcoming cruises and view comments from our members about past cruises. There is also a Classified Section for buying and selling our membership cars. The Tech Talk Section provides information about auto parts and recommendations for reputable places to have work done on your Miatas. The Miscellaneous Section has photos, videos and anything else that you would like to share with our members. The last Section includes used Miatas that are for sale at local dealerships. The Forum is open to all

members and is a great resource page. Be sure to check it out if you haven't already done so.

**T**he dog days of summer is the sultry part of summer which occurs during the period that Sirius, the dog star, rises at the same time as the sun – it's a time of lethargy, inactivity, and indolence. But, this is not the case for our Club – it's a time to zoom zoom and enjoy more top down adventures.

**I**f you're visiting this site just to check us out, Welcome! I hope you'll join us for an event this year so you can learn more about us.

**S**ee you soon! Get ready, get set, ZOOM!

## September Deadline

The deadline for articles for the September newsletter is September 3, 2016



Linda, we're going to need the top down to get this home.

Photo by Jim Pacillo





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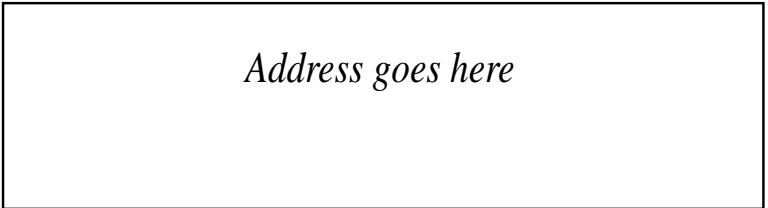
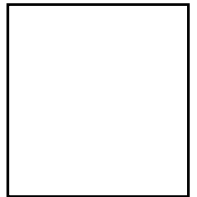
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